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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXVIII, No. 1

Section 1

July 1, 1940.

## WALLACE SEES HITLER THREAT TO AMERICAS

Secretary Wallace, speaking Sunday from Washington over the NBC-University of Chicago round-table broadcast, advocated "getting ready to meet a new united Europe with a united New World." He declared that "unless we prevent Hitler's 'divide and conquer' strategy from succeeding in this hemisphere, both the United States and our sister republics will be in grave danger." (A.P.)

## GERMANY'S FIRST THREAT ECONOMIC

From Buenos Aires, June 29, Russell B. Porter wired the New York Times that "Responsible Brazilian and American quarters agree that the most dangerous immediate aspect of the fifth column in Brazil is economic penetration. The pre-war German bilateral trade agreement with Brazil took away much of the United States exports to Brazil, and the handwriting on the wall is plain that this process will be intensified unless we act quickly....."

## 200 FOOD STAMP CITIES FORESEEN

The New York Journal of Commerce for July 1 says that extension of the food stamp plan to 200 cities before the end of this year is expected by officials. To date 118 cities have been selected for operation of the plan, which is already operating in eighty-three areas. Applications have been received from about 1,000 areas.

## AXIS THREATENS ECONOMIC BLOW TO AM REPUBLICS

According to a New York Times dispatch from Berlin, June 29, the American republics are presented with the choice of coming to terms with the "new Europe" under German hegemony or feeling the economic consequences, in a "highly authoritative" editorial titled "America and Europe" and appearing in the newest issue of "Rome-Berlin-Tokyo," the organ of the Axis powers published by the Reich's Foreign Office.

## RUSSIA SEIZES GRAIN CROPS; FAMINE LOOMS

The Associated Press reports from Budapest, June 30, that Russia has seized the only bumper crop of wheat and corn in the Balkan area by the occupation of Bessarabia, and the rest of the region faces a precarious food situation this winter.



Incubatorand StorageEgg Comparison

"On an average, about 12 percent of all chicken eggs set for hatching are sterile," says Alexis L. Romanoff, Cornell University, in Food Research, May-June. "These otherwise 'good' eggs, when removed after a few days of incubation, are usually discriminated against on the market. In commercial hatching there are annually incubated over 100,000,000 infertile eggs. These eggs, therefore, are a by-product which can be disposed of for industrial and other purposes only at a much lower price. The present study was undertaken to determine the rate of chemical decomposition of incubated or preheated, unfertilized eggs and to compare their quality and value with cold-storage eggs.

"It took about 10 months to dehydrate the whole egg at 20° C., and a little over four months at 37.5° C. . . . During incubation the volume of albumen was diminishing, while that of yolk at first was increasing then decreasing, owing to the flow of water from albumen to yolk and back by the process of osmosis. . . . As the result of chemical decomposition and then of escape through the eggshell of volatile oils, water, and carbon dioxide, there was found less total nitrogen and ether extract in the egg contents at the end of 21 days of incubation, but proportionally more calcium than in a fresh egg. In respect to chemical decomposition, one day of incubation of unfertilized eggs is equivalent to about five to six weeks of their cold storage; or for each degree of holding temperature above 0° C., there should be added approximately one day for aging."

War Cuts OffTulip Market

An article in Southern Florist and Nurseryman, June 21, headed "No Tulips for U.S. Unless We Grow Them Here," says: ".....Just what will the shutting off of bulbs from the Netherlands mean to American gardeners?.....Of the hundred million tulips brought in each year, the Netherlands accounts for 98 1/2 million. A few (300,000) come from France, the United Kingdom and Canada, all doubtful sources at present. Japan sends slightly over a million tulips to the United States. This is interesting, because only 44,500 came from that source in 1934.....

"When we turn to narcissi the picture looks different. The United States imports a few million; but the bulk of its requirements can now be supplied by a domestic production, which grew up behind quarantine barriers.

"As for domestic supplies of bulbs other than narcissi the immediate outlook is not so bright. For instance: American tulip production is estimated currently to be not over 10 million bulbs annually. Out of the present inconvenient situation is bound to come the development of a well-rounded American bulb industry as was projected by such pioneers as David Griffiths....."



Smoked Turkey Possibilities

Poultry Digest for June reports an article by D. C. Henderson of the University of Vermont which says that five methods of preparing "smoked turkey" were tried out in November and December 1939 on a Vermont farm. Mr. Henderson says: "The object of the test was two-fold: (1) To determine whether or not the smoking of turkey would open a new market for large toms. (2) To determine through 'tasting bees' the preference of consumers." He lists results of the test as follows: "(1) Consumers prefer a 'light' smoked bird. This is indicated by the preponderance of votes in favor of the apple smoked meat as compared to the walnut. (2) The 'smoked salt' and the 'sugar cure salt' treatments were a bit too salty for the majority of tasters. Perhaps this criticism could be overcome by removing the carcasses from solution in about 10 days. More work needs to be done on this method of processing. (3) The tom carcasses, when processed and roasted, weighed 53.7 percent of the 'blood and feather' weight. (4) The hen carcasses, when processed and roasted, weighed 72 percent of the 'blood and feather' weight." The "tasting bees" were held at Brandon and Burlington, Vt.

Sucupira Wood Gains Popularity

"A new wood, known as sucupira, is becoming increasingly popular, according to reports from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and is being used for bedroom furniture, chairs, tables, lampstands, wainscoting, partitions and office furniture," says Mississippi Valley Lumberman, June 21. "It is a reddish-brown wood with pencil-stripe grain and can be used for veneer although it is quite heavy and not as easily worked as mahogany. During the last few weeks, its price has raised from less than 2 cents to 2½ cents per board foot, f. o. b. Rio, and it is believed that if it had not been for the war, sucupira would have wrested the export market from rosewood."

Lockers As 'Food Banks' for Cities

"Although primarily designed for farm families, freezer lockers are fast becoming accepted 'food banks' for city residents, declares Miss Flora Carl of the Missouri College of Agriculture," says Ice and Refrigeration, June. "She pointed out that plants of the locker type were almost unknown a few years ago, but 'now are reported in operation in 27 states.' The quick freezing process is fast becoming an accepted method of food preservation for farm homes in communities where the locker plants are maintained, states Miss Carl. In many towns, she says, fifty percent of the patrons are village or city residents who buy from farmers on the wholesale market or through the locker management..."

Corn Leaves As Egg Cartons

"Not knowing what egg cartons are, the native Venezuelan often uses corn leaves, into which two eggs are wrapped neatly. The leaves serve as a cushion, help keep the eggs from breaking in transit, and keep them a little cooler." (Poultry Digest, June.)



Fortune Round  
Table On  
Agriculture

In its seventh Round Table, devoted to agricultural policy and national welfare, Fortune, for July, says: "Despite the improvement in agriculture since 1932 -- the rate of farm bankruptcies in 1939 was the lowest in 18 years -- a number of our members (22 citizens, a majority of whom are 'dirt farmers' from widely diversified areas of the country; the rest industrialists, distributors, labor representatives, and students interested in agriculture in relation to the economy as a whole) paint (in this Round Table) a rather gloomy picture of certain farm areas.....At the outset the Round Table wishes to express the belief that by itself no agricultural legislation can give the farmer the income he desires.....The Round Table agrees upon the necessity of a public policy of soil conservation, the need for a mechanism to improve farm marketing and reduce erratic fluctuations in farm prices, and the desirability of developing new uses for farm products. But on the major issue of whether government should endeavor, directly or indirectly, to increase farm income apart from that of the nation as a whole, we cannot agree.

"A large number of us -- certainly the majority of the dirt farmers -- favor the existing agricultural program. Admitting that it might be improved in certain directions, they do not propose to give it up until something better is offered. Other members, including several dirt farmers, fear that instead of really assisting agriculture, this program is preventing readjustments necessary for a healthy agriculture and is injuring national recovery as a whole. They fear also that the AAA methods involve serious dangers as to the future of free enterprise and democracy....."

Broad Breasted  
Bronze Turkey

".....A new type of turkey, a blocky, compact, heavy fleshed, quick maturing bird has appeared on the turkey horizon, a bird similar, if bird and animal may properly be compared, to Herefords and Shorthorns in its meaty composition," says H. P. Griffin in the San Diego Poultry Journal, May 25. ".....It is meeting an anvil chorus of disbelief and skepticism..... This new variety of turkeys originated in Oregon and Washington, its foundation being hens already long bred for meat type, to the exclusion of color patterns; and toms of pure English breeding imported from British Columbia. Selective breeding for the past ten years has improved the birds, smoothed them out, enhanced the prepotency and uniformity of their breeding and made them ready for their present rapid expansion. A year ago last December a committee was appointed by the breeders of the so-called 'Live Market birds' at the Northwestern Turkey Show to adopt a standard of perfection and a name for the variety. This committee met in Portland, Oregon, and from this meeting emerged the new standard and the name, Broad Breasted Bronze turkey....."



Calcium ".....'Increased amounts of calcium in the diet  
Diminishes diminish the amount of lead which is stored in the body,'  
Lead in Body Dr. Ludwig G. Lederer and Dr. Franklin C. Bing, of  
Chicago, announce in a report to the Journal of the  
American Medical Association, Chicago, June," says a report by Science  
Service. "Extra calcium in the diet, they discovered, retarded the de-  
position of lead in the bones of growing animals. The bones are the  
chief place where lead is stored in the body. 'Even minute amounts of  
lead may be detrimental to health if they accumulate in the body,' the  
Chicago doctors pointed out in discussing the hazard of the small  
amounts of lead which recent studies have shown in common foods.....How  
calcium acts to keep lead from accumulating in the bones is not definite-  
ly known. Apparently it is the result of chemical reactions in the in-  
testinal tract. Presumably the lead is made insoluble so that it can-  
not be carried to the bones. The calcium used in the study was calcium  
carbonate. Whether the calcium in milk would have the same beneficial  
effect cannot be stated without further experiments."

Statistics on "According to R. C. Roark, of the Bureau of Ento-  
Insecticides, mology, the increased use of insecticides and fungicides  
Fungicides between the years 1918 and 1936 was terrific and as he,  
in the latter year, figured it would be necessary to com-  
bat even more pests in the future, it may be assumed that since 1936,  
the costs of fighting them is now much greater than the \$100,000,000  
spent in that year," says an item in Florists' Exchange and Horticultural  
Trade World, June 22. "To give some idea of the quantities of insecti-  
cides and fungicides used, Mr. Roark estimated that in 1936 the total of  
arsenicals and sulphur compounds was 166,649,800 lbs.; of plant insecti-  
cides such as pyrethrum, derris, cube and nicotine, 16,096,372 lbs.,  
and fungicides such as copper sulphate, zinc chloride and sodium fluoride,  
20,127,886 lbs., to say nothing of 21,500,000 lbs., of naphthalene  
products and sundry oils and inorganic compounds. Incidentally, it may  
be mentioned that in the first eleven months of 1937, no less than 17,-  
947,196 lbs., of pyrethrum flowers were imported, greatly exceeding all  
previous records....."

Tractor "With around 150,000 tractors on Illinois farms, 51  
Clinics percent more than 5 years ago and 92 percent more than in  
1930, it is not surprising that one of the most popular  
extension courses put on by the College of Agriculture has been the  
tractor clinics held in the various counties," says Colin Kennedy in  
Country Gentleman, July. "Attendance at the two-day courses has run  
from 15 to 50. The tractor short courses, or clinics, are no reflection  
on the quality of the machines now being manufactured. Rather they repre-  
sent a desire on the part of farmers to better acquaint themselves with  
adjustments and pointers that will enable them to get peak performance at  
all times. Tractors were brought in to work on, or were furnished by  
local implement dealers....."



Saponin Spore Vaccine As Anthrax Cure "M. Sterne, E. M. Robinson and J. Nicol report the results of extensive studies on the use of saponin spore vaccine for anti-anthrax vaccination in South Africa.

Saponin has been advocated as a vehicle for anthrax vaccine by various investigators on the grounds that the immunity produced by anthrax vaccine is enhanced by saponin. However, severe reactions have followed the injection of vaccines in which the saponin content was high. On the other hand, weak saponin solutions appear to have little or no attenuating effect on the anthrax organism.

"The South African workers found that (1) virulent anthrax strains incorporated in saponin retained much of their virulence and could not be used in vaccines; (2) Italian and American commercial saponin vaccines examined by them did not contain virulent strains; (3) a large-scale field test failed to show any difference between saponin vaccine and ordinary spore vaccine. Sterne, Robinson and Nicol suggest that saponin should be used with mild strains to improve immunity, rather than with strong strains to reduce virulence." (North American Veterinarian, July.)

Goatkeepers Urged to Make Fancy Cheeses "War has cut off practically the entire supply of fancy cheeses from Europe," says Corl A. Leach, in the Dairy Goat Journal, July. "So here is an established market that will soon be begging when present stocks are exhausted. And with it is an opportunity for goatkeepers to establish another great American industry -- and the imported cheese industry has been a really great industry in itself....."

"Dry" Australian Oranges The California Citrograph, July, says: "Australian citrus growers are confronted with a problem of excessive dryness in some of the late valencia oranges. Dryness ranged from a general woodiness with a very low juice content to a collection of fibre devoid of free juice, it is reported. Most of the faulty fruit are of the large sizes. Marketing inspectors ordered repacking of some fruit and condemnation of other lots because of dryness."

Pasture, California's Expanding Crop "Permanent pasture is California's most rapidly expanding crop, and is undergoing a parallel development in other western States," says Western Livestock Journal, May 15. "Stockmen are seeding more and more land in permanent pasture as they are finding that it produces more feed at less expense than any other crop they can raise and at the same time is resulting in healthier, more profitable livestock....."

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Vol. LXXVIII, No. 3

Section 1

July 3, 1940.

HUTSON, HOEY  
FAVOR TOBACCO  
CROP CONTROL

From Oxford, N. C., the Associated Press, July 2, reports that J. B. Hutson, assistant AAA Administrator, and Governor Clyde R. Hoey, both advocated the continuation of control of the flue-cured tobacco crop in speeches to growers attending the annual field day of the test farm in Oxford. Mr. Hutson said that it would be difficult to export tobacco this year, but added that if farmers voted July 20 in favor of a three-year control program, prices this fall "will be protected at or slightly above last years' price levels."

PARIS FOODSTUFF  
SUPPLY DWINDLES

A dispatch to the New York Times from Paris dated June 30 (Delayed; Via Berlin) says that French women are unable to obtain sufficient food in the markets of Paris. Foodstuffs arriving in the central market have been dwindling from day to day. On Saturday there were forty tons of cold-storage meat instead of the 300 tons of fresh meat shipped in normal times, 1,300 pounds of chickens, instead of 25 tons, 400 tons of vegetables instead of 1,500 tons. Many necessities did not arrive.

HITLER PAPER  
"WARNS" LATIN  
AMERICANS

The International News Service reports from Berlin, July 3, that Germany has warned Latin America that the New World would suffer commercially after the war if it did not cooperate with the Reich now. The "warning" appeared in Hitler's own newspaper, Voelkischer Beobachter, which blamed the United States for the attitude of Latin America.

UNFAVORABLE  
CROP COMMENT  
UPS WHEAT PRICE

From Chicago, July 2, the Associated Press reports that wheat futures prices closed 1/8 to 3/8 cents higher than Monday's final figures. The rise is attributed to unfavorable crop comment from the Northwest spring wheat territory.

LONDON PAPERS  
BELIEVE FAMINE  
WILL DOWN NAZIS

The CTPS from London, July 2, says that London newspapers are stressing the fact that famine will prove to be an effective weapon for England in destroying the Nazi regime in the coming winter.



Electrocute  
Corn Borers

"For 2 years, the Purdue University Agricultural Experiment Station, in cooperation with the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry & Engineering, has been conducting experiments in the use of electricity to control the European corn borer," says an item in Rural Electrification News, June. "While still in the experimental stage, the method has achieved good results so far. Electrocutor traps, with bright attractor lights, placed in cornfields at night, attract a high proportion of the moths responsible for heavy crop losses. The current experiments are intended to learn what types of traps work best, how bright and of what color the lights should be, where in the field they should be located, how high above the corn they should be hung, and during what periods lights should be burned. One result of further experiments will be to establish data on the cost of installation and operation, but it seems probable that for many growers of sweet corn, and perhaps of field corn, electric corn borer control will soon be practical."

Picture  
Talks

"Thirty Linn County, Mo., farmers are being heard by transcription and their demonstrations seen on the screen nightly by hundreds attending community meetings," says Extension Service Review, June-July. "This method of taking demonstrations to a large number of people has been devised by J. Robert Hall, county extension agent, to solve the problem of small attendance at farm demonstration meetings. The demonstrations are photographed. Slides are made. What the demonstrator has to say about the practice and results is recorded. When the picture is projected, a loud speaker at each side of the screen emits the farmer's testimony in his natural voice.....A commercial phonographic turntable with amplifying tubes and extension cords to the speakers reproduce the recordings. This method is inexpensive.....Color pictures have been added this year....."

Farmers Polled  
On Triple A;  
66% Like It

Wallaces' Farmer announces, in the June 15 edition, the results of a poll among Iowa farmers on the popularity of the AAA. The survey of a cross section of the State, recently completed, shows that 66 percent of the farmers polled approve the AAA, 13 percent don't like it, and 12 percent haven't made up their minds on the subject. "Today the farm program is even stronger with Iowa farmers than during 1939," says the magazine. "Today, a great majority in Iowa apparently think the war is making the farm problem more difficult and that the AAA is needed more than ever." On acreage control, 57 percent of the farmers voted "yes," 15 percent voted "no," and the other 28 percent were undecided.



Tulip Growing  
in U. S.

".....Regarding the production of tulips here, it can at once be said that the bulb trade is not likely to be enamoured with offerings from growers whose major object is cut bloom," says Florists' Exchange & Horticultural Trade World, June 22. "Tulips, even more than daffs, suffer by being deprived of their stems and foliage because their actual growing season is short and bulb development mostly occurs after the flowering stage. It is not so amazing that there are a few growing tulips on a fairly large scale in various parts of the U. S. but rather that the number is not greater, because it has long been known that tulips can be grown in various places. As far back as 1919, the late Dr. David Griffiths sponsored a U. S. Department of Agriculture bulletin dealing with commercial production of Dutch bulbs in the United States and in 1936 he issued a more elaborate one devoted to tulip production only....."

War Policy  
Leads Farm  
Poll Issues

Successful Farming for July announces the results of its latest poll, carried out monthly among some 6,000,000 farmers under the title "The Farmer Speaks." In answer to the question, "What do you think is the most important issue in the coming Presidential election?" the magazine gives the following results:

	All farm- ers	Mid- west farm- ers	Other farm- ers
American policy with regard to			
the war.....	39%	39%	39%
The farm problem.....	14	16	12
Government spending policies.....	12	12	12
Unemployment.....	8	9	7
Relief.....	5	6	3
Business recovery.....	4	3	4
The New Deal.....	3	3	3
All others.....	15	12	20

Plastic  
Shoes

"Footwear of Vinylite, a transparent, supple new plastic, will be offered to the public August 1," says Hide and Leather and Shoes, June 1. ".....Vinylite is a co-polymer of vinyl chloride and vinyl acetate and the result is an elastic, durable material which is practically stainproof. It is elastic, but reacts slowly to its original shape, without the 'snap' of rubber. It is characteristically transparent, but may be colored or made opaque or translucent as well as transparent. It is said to perforate well and to take graining easily and it is practically impervious to chemical reaction. It is, however, non-porous, but this difficulty is largely overcome by the use of perforations....."

Export Programs To Continue Continuation into the 1940-41 fiscal year of the cotton and the wheat and wheat flour export programs was announced Tuesday by the Surplus Marketing Administration of the USDA. The continuing programs will follow the provisions and plan of operation of the programs which have been in effect during recent months.

Forest Service Gets Famous Lab The internationally-known Desert Laboratory at Tucson, Arizona, has been turned over by the Carnegie Institution of Washington, D. C., to the Forest Service, USDA. The Desert Laboratory was concerned with the study of arid and semi-arid regions which comprise almost one-fourth of the area of continental United States.

Grain Futures Up 41 Percent Over Last Year An increase of 41 percent in the volume of trade in grain futures on the Chicago Board of Trade during the fiscal year ended June 30 over that of the previous year was announced Tuesday by Dr. J. W. T. Duvel, Chief of the Commodity Exchange Administration.

241,000,000 Lbs. Pork Products For Relief The USDA announced Tuesday that the purchase of 24,510,000 pounds on June 29 brought total purchases of lard and pork products for domestic relief distribution to approximately 241,000,000 pounds since the program was authorized in December, 1939.

Wool Top Futures Increase 186 % The Commodity Exchange Administration of the USDA reported Tuesday that trading in wool top futures on the New York Wool Top Exchange aggregated 184,635,000 pounds during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1940, and an increase of 186 percent over the 64,665,000 pound total for 1939. Trading has increased every year since it was started in 1931.

24,595,000 Acres Planted To Cotton A total of 24,595,000 acres in the United States was planted to cotton and in cultivation at the end of June, according to the final New York Journal of Commerce survey of the 1940 series of reports on planting intentions and planting of the crop. The government estimate of the acreage in cotton will be issued July 8.

Egg Futures Transactions Increasing The Commodity Exchange Administration of the USDA today reported that egg futures transactions totaled 49,271 carlots, or 591,252,000 dozens, during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1940, an increase of 12 percent over the 1939 total of 43,909 carlots, or 526,908,000 dozens.

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Vol. LXXVIII, No. 4

Section 1

July 5, 1940.

## AMERICAS SET UP THREE NEW COMMISSIONS

Closer economic relationships among the twenty-one American republics will be sought by three new inter-American commissions being set up to bring about a better utilization of natural resources, according to an announcement on July 4 by Dr. Leo S. Rowe, director general of the Pan American union.

The new commissions will work on problems of rubber production and tropical agriculture in the western hemisphere, on the encouragement of soil conservation, and on inventory of the natural resources of both the American continents.

Doctor Rowe, in discussing the forthcoming inventory of natural resources stated: "Although we know the resources of the Western Hemisphere are immense, we have as yet inadequate information on their actual extent, value, present rate of depletion and possibilities for improved use and conservation." (Baltimore Sun, July 5, 1940.)

## BROOKLYN SEES \$22,500,000 FROM FOOD STAMP

Operation of the food stamp plan in Brooklyn scheduled to get under way September 1, will mean an estimated annual additional volume of some \$22,500,000 for retail food distributors of the borough, grocers promoting the program for this area predict. (New York Journal of Commerce, July 5.)

## INTER-AMERICAN PACTS URGED; HITS HULL TREATIES

Abrogation of the Hull reciprocal trade agreements and the substitution of a system of inter-American pacts giving Latin-American products preferential treatment has been suggested by James B. Herzog, vice-president of S. Stern Stiner & Co., customs brokers and foreign traders, as a means of readjusting United States trade practices to post war conditions, says the New York Herald Tribune of July 5th.

"This would constitute action instead of talk and would be concrete evidence that the 'good neighbor policy' is not just a political term," Mr. Herzog said.



Imitation Olive  
Oil Better Than  
Real Article

Food Industries for June has an item which says: "According to E. G. Eppenbach, of colloid mill fame, a new food product is developing in California. Ten percent of pitted ripe olives are homogenized with a bland vegetable oil like corn, cottonseed or tea seed oil to produce an 'olive oil' that is said to be better flavored than the finest virgin olive oil produced anywhere in the world. And the cost is considerably less than for the real thing. How to label such a superior product will be a serious problem. Certainly it would be unwise to call it 'Imitation Olive Oil' if it is actually superior to the best quality of genuine olive oil. Gratuitous suggestions: 'Corlive,' 'Cotlive,' or 'Tealive' oil."

New Forage  
Harvester

Implement and Tractor, June 22, in announcing a new farm machine, the Allis-Chalmers forage harvester, says: ".....Forage-minded F. W. Duffee, head of agricultural engineering at the University of Wisconsin, calls the forage harvester 'the last link in mechanized agriculture.'..... Forage crops handled by the new forage harvester include grass silage, dry hay, corn and sorghum silage, fodder and straw after the combine. The machine chops grass silage fine into short lengths necessary for good keeping quality, mowing the crop green for ensiling with molasses or other preservative. It also picks up the wilted crop from the swath or windrow, in which case a preservative may not be needed..... The new forage harvester operates from the power take-off of smaller tractors, elevating the chopped material into a trailing wagon. It is a 'one-man' machine, another step toward independence of neighborhood rings. A small blower or elevator can be used to deliver the chopped roughage into the silo or haymow....."

Heavy Grazing  
Invites Prairie  
Dog

"Prairie dogs are far more numerous in the West today than they were before white men and cattle replaced Indians and bison, Dr. Walter P. Taylor of the U. S. Biological Survey told a recent meeting at Denver of the American Society of Mammalogists," says a report by Science Service. "This increase is due at least in part to the reduction in average height of grasses on the range, result of heavy grazing, he declared. Prairie dogs like a wide horizon. They will not live in high-grass formations where their little sentries can not see possible danger approaching from afar. But when over-grazing cleans out the tall and mid grasses, short species come in. This new setup is just to the liking of the visibility-loving 'dogs.'....."



Meat Repertoire  
Of Most Women  
Is Very Small

"A survey made recently revealed a pretty startling fact. Of 500 women interviewed to determine how many retail cuts of meat they knew -- the great majority could remember only about a dozen -- and this, including all the cuts in a steer, a hog, a lamb and a calf. Actually, there are well over 500.....The average housewife.....doesn't bother too much about the many, many nutritious and often equally delicious other cuts -- on which, incidentally, she would save a good deal of money. As a result, the retailing of meats is unbalanced in most stores. Seventy percent of the cuts are neglected to the benefit of the other 30 percent.

"The education of the American housewife can best be accomplished in the retail meat market.....Meat dealers should display more varieties of meats.....In this way, the housewife can speedily be brought to a point where more than a dozen cuts of meat will appeal to her." (Butcher's Advocate - June 26.)

Cancer & Vitamin  
Deficiency May  
Be Connected

Experiments with animals indicating that the development of a chemically induced cancer of the liver may be linked with an impairment of the capacity of the organ to utilize two important vitamins of the vitamin B group (vitamin B complex), is reported in the June 28 issue of Science. The experiments, which may provide the first direct evidence of a possible relationship between cancer and a vitamin deficiency, are reported by Dr. C. P. Rhoads, director of research at Memorial Hospital, New York City, in collaboration with Dr. Kanematsu Gugiura and Charles J. Kensler.

Electric  
Barn Cleaner

Rural Electrification News for June announces a report by the superintendent of a Wisconsin electric cooperative "that one of the members of this REA system has invented an electric barn cleaner. The barn cleaner cleans out the gutters behind the cows by use of a movable apron consisting of two wire cables which are connected at regular intervals by steel slats similar to the apron on a manure spreader....."

Old Vaccine  
Dangerous  
to Animals

"Last year five million doses of encephalomyelitis vaccine were manufactured by a half dozen or more biological supply houses. An estimated 3,000,000 doses were used, leaving a carry-over of 2,000,000 doses. As this product deteriorates rather quickly it is short dated. Apparently some company or distributor sold vaccine that was too old to be effective. At the present writing a check-up has been made and (we feel) that any product dated this year now being offered will be reliable....." (Oregon Department of Agriculture Bulletin, June.)



Potato Disease  
In Canada            The (Canadian) Country Guide for July says that the spread of potato disease on the Canadian prairies has been "alarming" this spring. A committee of the Canadian Council of Horticulture has been investigating bacterial ring rot as its spread has been rapid. It was first observed in Quebec in 1931. It was found in New Brunswick and Alberta in 1937, in Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan in 1938 and in Nova Scotia in 1939. It appears to be spreading, but its geographical distribution is not completely known.

Coffee Control  
Considered by  
Americas            From Washington, D. C. the United Press reports on July 2 that Administration officials and representatives of several Latin American governments are considering plans for a cartel to control the production and marketing of coffee grown in the Western Hemisphere. It was believed, the story said, that the plan would be the first step in the direction of the cartel to control all American exports recently proposed by President Roosevelt.

Butter Futures  
Trading Rises  
117% Over '39        The Commodity Exchange Administration of the USDA on July 3, reported that trading in butter futures on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange during the fiscal year ended June 30 totaled 17,725 carlots, or 340,320,000 pounds, an increase of 117 percent over the 1939 total of 8,162 carlots. The 1940 total, however, was 11 percent below the 5-year 1934-39 average of 19,961 carlots.

13 New Papers  
Issued in June        Snow Surveys, state forests, hop growing, wheat storage on farms, and "stickers" for insecticides are among the diverse subjects discussed in the thirteen new publications issued in June by the USDA.

Auction Markets  
Sell More  
Tobacco            Sales of tobacco in the newly established southern Maryland auction markets are outstripping those in the historic market of Baltimore, reports the Washington Post of July 5. Figures compiled by those who follow the marketing of tobacco show that southern Maryland looseleaf sales totaled approximately 7,000,000 pounds during May and June compared with 4,714,000 pounds in Baltimore during the same two months.

FOOD  
STAMP            Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace announced recently that the Food Stamp Plan for distributing surplus agricultural commodities will be extended to Nassau County, New York. (Press Release, July 3.)

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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXVIII, No. 5

Section 1

July 8, 1940.

## DEFENSE PLAN SEEN USING U.S. SURPLUSES

An AP dispatch from New York, July 7, says that sources in Wall Street say that the vast U.S. defense program may be at least a partial solution of the problem of finding use for the Western Hemisphere's cotton, copper and other materials formerly exported to the big Nazi-dominated European market. Literally it would be a process of turning into swords the North and South American commodity surplus. The combined British and American war production, plus a tendency to fall into step on preparedness in some Latin American countries, would necessitate great quantities of raw materials, it was pointed out.

## SEES BIGGEST DANGER IN NAZI TRADE INVASION

The New York Journal of Commerce for July 8 says: "The aim of the U.S. to weld the military and economic defenses of the new world into a unit sufficiently strong to withstand attempted invasion is seen raising many problems and differences in points of view among government heads, particularly over the proposed handling of trade between the Western Hemisphere and the totalitarian States...Some Government officials are cautioning the President against plunging into the plan on grounds of immense cost. Farm organization leaders have informed the Government that if production control backs up the plan here they will insist it also be used in other countries -- in Canada, Uruguay and Argentina on wheat, and in Brazil and Argentina on cotton. The President has already given assurances to farm leaders against the dumping of South American surpluses of wheat, beef, flax and wool in this country. But officials realize that unless production control backs up the plan in all countries, the buying corporation soon would be swamped with overproduction and driven into huge financial losses. Questions whether the economic steps being proposed are forerunners of an American imperialistic venture are also being raised."

## LOANS ON '37, '38 CORN REDEEMABLE AT 58 CENTS

The USDA announced Friday that farmers may redeem their loans on farm-stored 1937 and 1938 corn at 58 cents per bushel between July 5 and October 1, 1940. This action, made possible when the CCC adjusted 1937 and 1938 corn loan redemption values from about 67 cents to 58 cents a bushel, places stored corn of the last three crops on virtually the same redemption basis.

More Acreage; J. W. Tidmore, Head, Department of agronomy and  
Less Cost soils, Agricultural Experiment Station, Auburn, Ala.,  
Per Acre writes, in the American Fertilizer for June 22, that  
 low crop yields per acre are closely associated with  
 high cost of production. In substantiating his point, Mr. Tidmore quotes  
 the following figures on the cost of cotton production as related to  
 yields:

<u>Yield per acre</u>	<u>Cost of Production</u>
Lb. lint	cents
100	15.0
150	12.0
200	9.0
250	8.0
300	7.0
350	6.5
400	6.0
450	5.5
500	5.0
550	4.5
600	4.0

These figures are reported by Gist in Alabama Extension Circular No. 164.

REA Farm  
Show a Hit

"Last week the 20-trailer show of a new kind of carnival was winding its way through rural Wisconsin... From six-thirty A.M. until late at night delighted farm men and their wives packed its big top and side shows. The new 'electrical circus' was the REA'S Farm Equipment Tour, which last year played to 175,000 farm folks at 45 stands, and is now in its third season... This REA carnival of electricity, to show farmers means of using their newly-gained power profitably, started this year's tour in Texas, then swung up the Atlantic Coast, and is now working west.... Manufacturers who sell through the show find that they have virgin territory, with buyers hungry for their wares. 'The REA tour has cut our sales costs in half,' said one dealer. Farmers can buy anything from milking machines to chick brooders, from kitchen ranges to heating pads." (Pathfinder, July 6.)

Fortune Prints  
Story of Nylon

Fortune Magazine for July contains a detailed article on nylon, which, in addition to describing the development of this new textile, shows diagrammatically the production of the yarn through all of the chemical steps. Tribute is paid to the work of Dr. Wallace Carothers and the developments which preceded the marketing of nylon hosiery in May. Worked out from information received from duPont, the article makes a survey of the industrial background of nylon. Of particular interest is the comment in the article that "nylon may easily gross eleven million dollars for duPont its first year."



Brazil Shies  
At Cartel,  
Says Press

"President Roosevelt's proposed establishing of a cartel for handling the trade of the Western Hemisphere has caused much discussion in the Brazilian press. There has been a lack of unanimity on the subject, the American Brazilian Association reported Sunday. 'Some have been of the opinion that Brazil might do better to stay clear of such an arrangement in order that it might be free to negotiate with whom it desired and under the conditions most acceptable to it,' the association stated. 'Apparently the proposal is not particularly acceptable to those friendly with the totalitarian idea, but, on the other hand, many have seen in the proposal a plan for safeguarding the interest of the entire new world.'" (New York Journal of Commerce, July 8.)

BAE Reports

On Farm Income Farmers realized a gross farm income in 1939 of 9,769 million dollars, or 4 percent more than the gross farm income of 9,362 million dollars in 1938, it is estimated by the BAE. Gross farm income in 1936 amounted to 9,915 million dollars, and in 1937 to 10,569 million dollars. The gross income estimates include cash income from the sale of farm products during the calendar year, the value of farm products retained for consumption on farms where grown at average prices received by producers, and Government payments to farmers.

Cash income from farm marketings in 1939, as revised to incorporate more complete data on sales of livestock and livestock products, amounted to 7,733 million dollars compared with 7,590 million dollars in 1938, an increase of about 2 percent. However, the value of products retained for home consumption declined from 1,290 million dollars in 1938 to 1,229 million dollars in 1939 because of lower prices of many of the important products grown for home consumption on the farm. Government payments from the Agricultural Conservation Program increased from 482 million dollars in 1938 to 807 million dollars in 1939.

China Gets  
U. S. Wheat

"The USDA said Saturday that it had approved last week sales of about 600,000 bushels of Pacific Northwest wheat for shipment to Chinese importers. The sales were made under the Government's export subsidy program." (Associated Press, July 6.)

Forest Outings  
Just Off Press

Lewis Gannet reviews the book "Forest Outings" (U.S.D.A., Forest Service) in the New York Herald Tribune of July 5th. "Forest Outings" is the work of thirty foresters, edited and correlated by Russell Lord.

Stamp Plan  
For Calif.  
Counties

Secretary Wallace announced Friday that the Food Stamp Plan for distributing surplus agricultural commodities will be extended to the San Joaquin Valley area of California. This area will include the counties of San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, and Madera.



District to Get  
New Milk Plan

The Surplus Marketing Administration of the USDA Friday announced approval of a low-cost milk distribution program for the Washington, D.C., marketing area. The plan would supplement operation of the Federal order in effect for the handling of milk in that area. It is designed to enlarge markets for dairy farmers supplying the Washington area through encouraging the consumption of fluid milk, which would be made available at 5 cents a quart to low-income families. Similar low-cost milk distribution programs are already in operation in Boston, Chicago, and New Orleans.

Bluegrass Label  
Requirements  
Suspended

Requirements of the Federal Seed Act with respect to labeling new-crop Kentucky bluegrass and bentgrass seed for germination have been suspended for the period from August 5 to September 30, 1940, the Agricultural Marketing Service announced Friday. Suspension of the requirement has been made to facilitate the movement of 1940 seed of these grasses to areas where it may be needed for fall seeding to supplement carry-over stocks which are expected to be below normal.

Winton to Head  
Lansing Poultry  
Research Lab

The appointment of Berley Winton, senior poultry husbandman in charge of poultry husbandry investigations in the Animal Husbandry Division of the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry, as director of the U. S. Regional Poultry Research Laboratory, East Lansing, Mich., was announced Friday by Dr. John R. Mohler, Chief of the Bureau. Mr. Winton, whose appointment is effective July 10, succeeds Dr. J. Holmes Martin, who recently resigned from that position to become head of the poultry husbandry department of Purdue University.

Growers Approve  
West Coast  
Hops Program

Complete returns in a referendum on a Federal marketing agreement program for hops produced in Oregon, California, and Washington show that nearly 74 percent of the growers who voted cast ballots favoring the program, the Surplus Marketing Administration of the USDA announced Saturday. The marketing agreement program would replace a similar one which has been in effect since August 15, 1938, and which automatically expires with the 1939-40 crop year.

Part Rayon  
Asked in Bids  
For Army Cloth

A Philadelphia dispatch to the N.Y. Journal of Commerce, July 4, states that to provide a substitute standard serge cloth for uniforms and worsted shirting for the Army for use in the event of a wool shortage in the United States, the Army Quartermaster Depot here has for the first time asked for bids on fabrics containing a percentage of viscose cut staple rayon.

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXVIII, No. 6

Section 1

July 9, 1940.

O'NEAL SAYS AAA  
CAN MANAGE  
WAR FOOD JOB

From Chicago the Associated Press, July 8, reports that Edward A. O'Neal, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, said Monday that agriculture "stands to lose, rather than to gain, as a result of the European war." Mr. O'Neal said that "agriculture is ready to meet war conditions and, since we have a national farm program, there is no need for the creation of a food administration, such as we had in the last war. The AAA can do the job.....To protect agriculture, the present machinery for moving excessive surpluses into foreign and domestic consumption must be continued and expanded, and the loan and storage operations should be utilized to the limit to protect the commodity price level."

FARM LEADERS  
MAY ASK PRICE  
FIXING PLANK

The AP, July 8, reports that administration farm leaders in Washington indicated Monday that they would ask the Democratic National Convention to adopt an agricultural plank broad enough to cover governmental fixing of farm prices if economic developments should interfere with present farm programs. Aides said that Secretary Wallace would appear before the Democratic Platform Committee at Chicago to ask party approval of present agricultural policies.

COTTON ACRES  
SLIGHTLY UP  
SAYS BOARD

"Cotton acreage in cultivation in the U. S. as of July 1 totaled 25,077,000, according to the preliminary estimate issued by the Crop Reporting Board of the Agricultural Marketing Service Monday. The report compared with 24,683,000 acres planted as of July 1, 1939, according to the revised figures recently issued." (New York Journal of Commerce, July 9.)

CANADA SEES  
BETTER GRAIN  
CROPS FOR '40

The CP reports from Winnipeg, July 8, that prospects for a better than average 1940 grain crop quickened across Western Canada Monday as healthy prairie wheat stands flourished under cloudy skies.

Raising Turkeys  
Under Screen  
Prevents Ills

"Turkey raising may become an occupation conducted 'indoors,' Dr. E. P. Johnson, animal pathologist at the Virginia Experiment Station, Blacksburg, believes. A three-year experiment by Doctor Johnson has proved that turkeys can be raised successfully in screened shelters. Doctor Johnson points out that turkeys raised in screen houses, because they do not come into contact with flies, are free from parasitic diseases, to which they are especially prone, that are carried by blood-sucking insects.....Doctor Johnson's birds were safeguarded not only from a blood protozoa disease, which, he discovered, was spread by blackflies, but also from blackhead, coccidiosis, gape-worm, wound-worms and tape-worm.....Some of the confined birds were lost on the deformity called hock disease, perosis or slipped tendon. This loss was later overcome, however, by feeding manganese with the ration. Lack of sunlight was proportionately offset with cod liver oil....." (Feedstuffs, June 29)

Will Orleaneans  
Use Blue Stamp  
To Buy More Rice

The Rice Journal for June editorializes on the possible effect of the food stamp plan in New Orleans (to be launched about August 1) on the high consumption of rice in that area. The argument has been advanced, says the Journal, to the effect that the estimated 92,000 eligible persons in New Orleans will increase their rice purchases by the blue stamps, since rice has been more or less a portion of the daily diet of New Orleaneans over a period of years. A counter-argument has been advanced to the effect that, since the eligible residents of Orleans parish are more or less habitual rice-consumers, the blue stamps will be used to purchase other surplus commodities which otherwise they could not afford. "The American rice industry will do well to watch the effect of the Stamp Plan in New Orleans," the Journal concludes. "Through a close study of the program, we should soon have a more definite conception of what the Food Stamp Plan can and will do for rice."

Artificial  
Breeding of  
3,000 Cows

"Central Maine dairymen who went into artificial breeding in a big way should begin to learn something about it very shortly in a practical way. They have enrolled 3,000 cows, and, since last September, 1,200 cows have been bred. The first crop of calves began arriving in June. Approximately 200 cows are now bred each month.....It is said that within a 40-mile radius of Newport alone \$90,000 has been paid by 310 farmers for association bulls, including four Jersey sires. It is the largest breeding enterprise of its kind in the U. S." (Jersey Bulletin, July 3.)



Food Industry  
Probe Expected  
To Open Soon

According to Food Field Reporter, July 8, the food industry investigation planned by the Department of Justice is expected to open soon in Chicago and Philadelphia. An investigation into milk distribution in the New York City area has already begun, and Assistant Attorney General Arnold said that it would be used as a testing ground for "methods and techniques" to be used later in the general food investigation.

Cold Aids  
Germination  
of Potato

C. F. Clark, Bureau of Plant Industry, USDA, reports in the American potato Journal for June on his experiments on the longevity of potato seed. In conclusion, Mr. Clark says that tests were made of potato seed stored for thirteen years under four conditions. Those stored at room temperature in an envelope were found to maintain the least viability. Those stored in a bottle at room temperature were slightly more viable. Seed stored at 40 degrees F. showed no decline in viability until after eleven years of storage. A temperature of 32 degrees F. not only prolonged the life of the seed to the end of the thirteen year storage period, but appeared to have a stimulating effect, since the highest percentages of germination in this lot were obtained during the last five years of the test.

Macaroni Men  
Seek Blue  
Stamp Status

"Immediate appeal is to be made to Washington officials by the macaroni industry to place its products on the list of commodities available in exchange for federal blue stamps. Previous attempts to secure acceptance of spaghetti, noodles and like products have been unsuccessful, due it is believed, to the failure to place government officers in possession of all facts....." (Food Field Reporter, July 8.)

Hogs Reach  
New High  
Of \$7

Chicago hog prices have been advancing rapidly recently and Monday a new high of \$7 per 100 pounds was reported to have been paid, according to the New York Journal of Commerce, July 9. Throughout the day a fair amount of business was concluded at prices ranging from \$6 to \$7.

Coffee Nations  
Plan Export  
Quotas to U.S.

Delegates of the fourteen coffee-producing countries of Latin America participating in the third Pan-American coffee conference have empowered the Pan-American Coffee Bureau to work out details for a plan of export quotas to the U.S., according to the New York Journal of Commerce, July 9. The plan calls for the maintaining of current crops in the most equitable and practical manner for the protection of countries already established in this market, while making allowance for the needs of other countries formerly dependent on European markets.

Britain Buys  
Huge Amount  
Of U.S. Milk

From Milwaukee, the CTPA reports, July 8, that the British commission has bought a half million cases of evaporated skim milk and five million pounds of powdered skim milk and is trying to buy another million cases of evaporated and five million pounds more powdered milk, according to Ralph E. Ammon, State director of agriculture and markets.

Business Swings  
Up With Defense  
Says Commerce

The AP says that the Commerce Department announced Sunday that the business upswing engendered by the defense program had gathered momentum during June and that there are possibilities that even greater speed will be generated.

41-42 Flue-Cured  
Tobacco Quota  
Announced

Secretary Wallace Monday proclaimed a flue-cured tobacco quota for the 1941-42 marketing year of 556 million pounds, with the proviso that the quota be increased upward to 618 million pounds if growers approve marketing quotas for three years in the July 20 referendum. Secretary Wallace also formally approved July 20 as the date for the referendum.

Hatchery Firms  
On Increase

More than 782 million baby chicks are produced annually by commercial hatcheries operating in the United States, according to a bulletin just issued by the Poultry Division of the Surplus Marketing Administration USDA.

Atom Smasher For  
Cancer Study

Dr. Thomas S. Gates, president of the University of Pennsylvania, has announced that a giant atom smasher, equal in size and capacity to any in use or under construction in the world, is to be built at the university for cancer research and treatment, according to the New York Herald Tribune of July 8.

Immunization  
For Colds

The AP reports from Chicago that the main secret of immunity to the common cold has been discovered at the University of Illinois School of Medicine. This secret is in the temperature of the mucosa of the nose and is something which cold sufferers can build up.

Paralysis  
"Doors" Found

From Baltimore the AP reports that evidence that infantile paralysis invades the human body through more than one "door" was reported Saturday by two Johns Hopkins Medical School doctors. Heretofore the general assumption has been that the disease was contracted only through the olfactory nerve or "nerve of smell" in the nose. But these studies indicate it can readily start somewhere in the elementary tract between the mouth and intestines.

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Vol. LXXVIII, No. 7

Section 1

July 10, 1940.

## NAZIS DECLARE CARTEL PLANS HAVE FAILED

"Authorized Nazi economic sources expressed the belief today that President Roosevelt's declaration on the Monroe Doctrine meant that the United States was withdrawing into its own shell in the economic sphere. They said that plans of the United States for a Pan-American cartel which were to be launched at the Havana conference opening on July 20, apparently have failed because South American countries considered Europe still their principal market," according to an Associated Press dispatch from Berlin July 9.

## URUGUAY FEARS U.S. WON'T GIVE EFFECTIVE AID

"It was learned from reliable diplomatic sources today that fear that the United States would not give Uruguay effective economic and financial support in an emergency was one of the decisive factors in the governments recent action in releasing from custody twelve ringleaders of a Nazi plot to seize Uruguay as a German Colony." (New York Times, July 10.)

## "VUE PAKS" USED FOR COVER GLASSES

"As a result of the present conflict in Europe, the price of cover glasses used in the preparation of slides for the microscopic study of tissues has risen so much that the question as to how to meet this increase in price has become a serious problem for those laboratories in which the number of tissues studied in serial sections is great. There seems, accordingly, to be a widely felt need for a less expensive substitute for imported cover glasses. We have found that plastic serves for this purpose.....We are using cellulose acetate, trade name "Vue Paks" which can be obtained in sheets 0.005 inch or 0.127 mm thick, corresponding approximately to the thickness of cover glass No. 1 which varies between 0.13 mm and 0.14 mm." (Science of July 5.)

## "FRIENDS OF THE LAND" FORMED

"Under the sponsorship of such persons as Albert Einstein, the late A. Frank Lever, Fiorello LaGuardia and others of note a new organization 'to combat soil erosion, the waste of rainfall, and the human waste and displacements which follow' was recently formed in Washington," reports the Extensioner publication of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas at College Station. "It is called 'Friends of the Land'".



Vitamin B<sub>1</sub>  
In Wasted  
Vegetable  
Liquor

"The percentage of vitamin B<sub>1</sub> in the liquor of canned vegetables which is lost to the public when the housewife pours the juices down the sink is 40 percent for peas, 43 percent for asparagus, 50 percent for waxed beans and 51 percent for lima beans, it was reported by Robert S. Harris and B. E. Proctor of Massachusetts Institute of Technology at the recent meeting of the Institute of Food Technologists in Chicago." (Food Field Reporter, July 8.)

Falls Lead  
As Cause Of  
Farm Deaths

In an analysis of the causes for the 2,445 deaths from farm accidents in the State of Wisconsin during the four years of 1934-37, inclusive, the Wisconsin Agriculturist and Farmer for June 29 reports that 42% were due to falls, 14% to heat, 13% to drownings, 12% to burns, 6% to firearms, 4% to poisons, 4% to animals, 3% to machinery and 2% to electricity.

Extend Area  
For 1940  
Barley Loans

The USDA on July 9 announced the extension of the area in which 1940 barley loans will be made. Warehouse loans will be available in all counties in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas, and the following counties in Idaho: Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Benewah, Shoshone, Latah, Clearwater, Nez Perce, Lewis, and Idaho. Previously approved for loans on warehouse-stored barley were the States of California, Oregon, and Washington. Farm storage loans have been extended to include Oklahoma and Texas. They were previously available in California, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming. (Press Release.)

Calif. To Vote  
On Hardy Pear  
Marketing

The Surplus Marketing Administration of the USDA announced yesterday that within 10 days proposed amendments to the Federal marketing agreement and order for Beurre Hardy pears produced in California will be placed before the industry for approval. Growers will have the opportunity to vote in a referendum on the issuance of an amended order and at the same time, the amended agreement will be submitted to handlers for their approval. The proposed amendments have been tentatively approved by Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace. (Press Release.)

Trapping For Flies  
Should Begin Early

Flytrapping should begin early if it is to be of greatest value. The USDA bulletin on Flytraps and Their Operation, suggests types of traps, uses and limitations of flytraps, baits and bait containers and care and location of traps. There are several illustrations. (Mo. Ruralist, July.)



Carolina FarmersNeed to Change Ways

There never has been a greater necessity than now for Carolina farmers seriously to review their farm plant and their ideas about farming, with a view to making a permanent change in both, says the Southern Planter in its issue of July 1940. Carolinas' typically Southern farmers have disregarded the maxim of the far-sighted old man who dared "not to venture all his eggs in one basket". North Carolina farmers have put too large a share of their income "eggs" in the tobacco basket; South Carolina farmers, too large a share in the cotton basket. Both have put too much faith and dependence upon cash crops. Farming in the Carolinas consequently, has not been balanced properly between crops on the one hand and livestock on the other. This is today's challenge to Carolina farmers: to forget the cotton and tobacco bonanzas of a day that is past and turn to a safer, more serene system of farming -- one which puts food, feed and soil fertility first.

CensusReturns

The United States News, in its issue of July 12, 1940, says returns from the 1940 census show American cities are ceasing to grow but that a revival of business activity may be expected to check temporarily the decline. "Thousands of prospective city dwellers are backed up on farms and villages because of unemployment in towns," the news says. "This situation complicates the farm problems of Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace, who has not only to bolster the incomes of farmers because of slackened demand from cities for food, but also has to care for that part of the population that normally would live in cities.

"The chances of drawing many workers from farms into cities are considered doubtful by many economists. They point out that city plants already are built, that there is little occasion to build more street railways, pave more new streets, lay new sewer lines or construct new office buildings, even if business does revive. Big cities, in fact, are believed to have passed their population peak already, both because of the growth of suburban areas and because industries are decentralizing operations."

The News comments that a static or declining population in cities raises serious problems for municipalities, including the problems of taxes and the adverse affects on city business.

Safe TrailsPromote Horse  
Breeding

"The use of horses for riding, driving, polo and racing has been encouraged by the Horse and Mule Association of America through its cooperation with local groups all over the United States to bring about the establishment of safe trails," says the North American Veterinarian, July. "With the increase of safe trails riding has grown at an amazing rate, and as a natural consequence have come more riding stables, academies, clubs, horse shows, polo teams, and cross-country hunts."



Results OfResearchCatches Public

"Some important practical results of research work have rested dormant and unused in the shelves of libraries," says an editorial in the Market Growers Journal, July 1. "Mendel's work in genetics was a good illustration. Experimental results on soil cultivation likewise were ignored for years until additional work was done and these findings were given recognition.

"Other research results possess what the youngsters, when they are looking at a 1940 car, call 'flash'. Very often this discovery of popular interest is more of a surprise to the research worker than to anyone else. Growth-promoting substances, mineral nutrient deficiencies and vitamins, are examples of discoveries that have caught the imagination of the public, have received much space in popular magazines and give rise to countless questions which come to editorial desks.

"The latest of these discoveries is concerned with the part that Vitamin B<sub>1</sub> plays in the growth of plants. Dr. James Bonner of the California Institute of Technology has been a leader in these studies and many others have conducted experiments."

Methyl BromideGassing PleasesFruit Growers

"California is going to have another big year in the use of methyl bromide, introduced by D. B. Mackie of the State Department of Agriculture.

"Gassing fruits, vegetables, nursery stock, etc., with methyl bromide has proved to be an excellent method of fumigation and pear growers who gassed some 3200 cars of pears last year as a precaution against the invisible worms, are so pleased with the improved ripening of the fruit, that they will continue the method both as a precaution against possible worms and as an addition to quality of the fruit." (Pacific Rural Press of June 29.)

ArmamentBillionsDeceptive

In its issue of July 12, 1940 the United States News says: "Piling up of armament billions is deceptive, is not a sign that the United States, overnight, will be rearmed. Army and Navy now have promises of nearly \$15,000,000,000, have blueprints for a vast Navy of 750 ships, a powerful Army of 1,000,000 men, streamlined and mechanized. But: these are just blueprints; are to be turned into actuality not immediately, but two, three or four years from now. Cash outlays in the year ahead will be under \$4,000,000,000; will be far below the outlays and effort that Britain and France and Japan have been making for armament."

Soybean MealFutures MarketBegins Selling

"The world's only futures market for soybean meal, which has risen in importance in recent years with the increase in industrial uses for soy beans, opened here (New York) today. Fifteen 100 ton sales were made. In the first trade 100 tons brought \$17 a ton," according to the New York Times today.

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Vol. LXXVIII, No. 8

Section 1

July 11, 1940.

## STAMP PLAN "POSSIBLE" FOR ALL AMERICAS

An United Press dispatch from Wellesley, Mass., July 10, says that the Administration is considering the possibilities of a "Glorified Stamp Plan" for the surplus commodities of the entire Western Hemisphere to block Fascist economic inroads in Latin America, according to Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins. The plan, based on the Federal stamp plan now operating in the U.S., might be arranged to give "all the America's access to all surplus products through the intercession of a trading corporation," Miss Perkins said at a political forum at Wellesley College.

## SHALL U.S. FEED PEOPLE IN AREAS TAKEN BY NAZIS

The Christian Science Monitor, July 10, says that American Red Cross relief operations in German-occupied France have come to a standstill, pending governmental decision as to whether the U. S. shall feed people in the nations that have become part of the German Empire.

## FRENCH TOTS TO GET RED CROSS FOOD

"A trainload of children's food, contributed by the American Red Cross through the League of Red Cross Societies, is en route from Geneva, Switzerland, to the part of France unoccupied by invaders for distribution to needy children, the Red Cross Headquarters said Wednesday.....The train, loaded with ~~ninety-four~~ tons of condensed milk, dried milk, chocolate, cheese, ham and varied baby foods, is headed for Vichy....." (New York Times, July 11.)

## ARGENTINA WILL TRY TO SELL MEAT TO U.S.

A special dispatch to the Christian Science Monitor from Buenos Aires, July 10, says that the U.S. offers the best prospects for increased export of Argentine meat, according to the Ministry of Agriculture, which has recommended that the National Meat Board switch its sales publicity in that direction. This will mean the end of trade propaganda in England. According to Minister Massini Ezcurra, European conditions preclude immediate increases in meat consumption, and it would be better if the whole sales campaign were transferred to the U. S., "where 130 millions have a high standard of living and a low meat consumption."



Export  
Trade

An editorial in Wallace's Farmer for June says:  
"No matter how the war ends, our export trade is likely to be wrecked. The Nazis will try to reorganize Europe so that they will not need our trade. If the British hold out, they will be so poor that they can't buy our goods. Anything we send them will come in the gift class, no matter what we call it. In the long run, therefore, the chances are that the war will force the American farmer back into the home market. That means less corn, less lard, less wheat, less cotton and less tobacco. It means more butter, milk, fruit, beef, vegetables and lean pork -- provided American incomes are pushed up to a point where consumers can buy these goods.

"If the American nation were producing and eating at a desirable level, home demand would take care of many of our farm products at a good price. But it would not take care of the present production of lard, wheat, cotton or tobacco. Our long-time job, therefore, is two-fold. We must shift acreage to the things the American public needs. And we must aid in reorganizing industrial production and city income so that the nation will have enough money to buy these farm goods. The export market is fading away. We shall have to get ready to fit our production to American needs."

Triple Chances  
Offered Growers  
By Vitamin B<sub>1</sub>

"Agricultural colleges, vegetable growers, florists and particularly under-glass growers have intensified their experimental work with the 'new' Vitamin B<sub>1</sub> since last fall," says an article in the Market Growers Journal, July 1. "It may have an important role to fill in some areas and with some crops in a commercial way. No one at present seems to know definitely just what or where.

"E. C. Minnum, graduate student in vegetable crops at Cornell University told about it to date last issue (June, 15, pg. 299). P. J. Cardinal, manager of the vitamin division of one of the larger manufacturers of the product points out that while experimental results alone can prove its commercial value in our fields of truck crops, a triple possibility is offered, namely (1) developing hardier, sturdier and bigger plants, (2) reduction of losses during transplanting, (3) producing vegetables with higher vitamin B<sub>1</sub> content."

Lard Definition  
Comments Sought

Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace has announced that further comments and suggestions on the Departments proposal to issue standards defining what meat food products may be sold under the name of lard in interstate commerce will be received up to August 1, 1940. The proposed standards would be issued under the Meat Inspection Act with the aim of increasing protection to consumers by establishing standards of uniformity and wholesomeness for products sold under the name of lard. (Butchers' Advocate, June 26.)



Severence Tax  
On Timber Is  
"Forward Step"

"The Mississippi timber severence tax enacted in May represents a forward step in forest conservation second only to forest fire protection," says American Forests, July. "While forest products will pay double the taxes of the ancient ad valorem system, the equalization benefits of the new tax as compared with the discriminatory past use of the ad valorem system, will encourage land owners to protect young timber and bring their forest lands to fuller productivity. The amount of the tax is three percent. Two-thirds of the collections will be returned to the counties and one-third will go to the general fund of the State."

Sulphur  
Cures  
Chlorosis

"Sulphur has been put into practical use in the alkaline Rio Grande valley soils. Applications of sulphur in spots or holes in soils around chlorotic citrus trees have repeatedly cured the chlorosis. Spot applications of sulphur-compost in holes 10 inches deep about the base of chlorotic rose bushes have resulted in practically completed recovery in 30 to 40 days," according to a report by the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station in the Texas Farming and Citriculture of July.

West Texans Try  
Cotton Insect  
Dusting Control

An article in the July issue of Farm and Ranch (Dallas, Texas) reports the increasing use of dusting to rid cotton of harmful insects. A number of West Texans were encouraged by the Sweetwater Cotton Oil Company to tackle the insect problem in 1939, using the dusting methods which have been proven for many years under every condition where cotton is grown. The results as reported by Farm and Ranch were uniformly successful.

Sugar Entries  
Against Quotas  
For First 6 Mts.

The Sugar Division of the AAA on July 10 issued its sixth monthly report on the status of the 1940 sugar quotas for the various sugar-producing areas supplying the United States market. The sum of these quotas represents the quantity of sugar estimated, under the Sugar Act of 1937, to be required to meet consumers' needs during the current year.

The report shows that the quantity of sugar charged against the quotas for all offshore areas, including the full-duty countries, during the first six months of the year, amounted to 2,396,057 short tons, raw value, as compared with 2,253,079 tons during the corresponding period of 1939.

Trade  
Cartel

In its issue of July 12 the U.S. News says: "Adolph Berle's idea for a huge Latin-American trade Cartel no longer bears close relationship to the idea that originally came from the Assistant Secretary of State. Whittling is still going on."



Cotton Up  
5 to 85¢  
A Bale

The AP, July 11, says that a decisive rise in cotton at New York high-lighted trade Wednesday in major futures markets. Reports of crop damage by unfavorable weather spurred demand for cotton and prices rose 5 to 85 cents a bale.

Agricultural  
Production Up  
Three Percent

The volume of agricultural products for sale and for home consumption in 1939 was about 3 percent greater than in 1938 and only about 2 percent less than the record output in 1937, it was reported Wednesday by the BAE. In 1939 the index of the volume of agricultural production was 107 percent of the 1924-29 average compared with 104 percent in 1938 and 109 percent in 1937. During the last 3 years the volume of agricultural production has averaged 107 percent of the 1924-29 average, the highest for any 3-year period on record.

Crops Made  
Good Start,  
Says Board

Crops have made a good start and better-than-average yields are indicated by July 1 conditions, the Crop Reporting Board states. Reports on July 1 crop prospects average substantially higher than on the same date last year and nearly as high as two years ago; but yields are not expected to be as high as in those years--1938 and 1939--unless the weather during the growing season after July 1 should be equally as favorable. During the first 10 days of July rainfall has been reported to be deficient in most of the area from Illinois westward, and a large part of the South reports too much rain.

With the good yields now in prospect, total crop production is expected to be fully up to the average of the pre-drought years, and only slightly below production last year. But total crop production will not be as much above average as yields per acre because of the small acreage of crops being grown. After making an allowance for late plantings, for average abandonment of cotton, and for loss of other crops, the acreage to be harvested is expected to be only about 2 percent above the small acreage of last year and 3 percent below the average of the last 10 years--a period that includes the great droughts of 1934 and 1936. The acreage planted for harvest appears to be the fourth smallest since 1915. Potential crop production is also lessened by the reduction in the acreage planted to cotton and corn and the substitution of hay and legume crops of lower value per acre.

While crop production has not been increasing in proportion to population, requirements and markets are changing, and stocks of some commodities are so large that supplies of major products are expected to be ample. Present indications are that the production of the various crops this year will give a well-balanced total that will permit utilization of some of the reserves on hand and add little to farm stocks, except hay.

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXVIII, No. 9

Section 1

July 12, 1940.

## BRITAIN FACES FOOD CRISIS

From London the AP, July 11, says that R. S. Hudson, minister of agriculture, told the House of Commons Thursday that Britain was facing a crisis immeasurably more serious than in 1914 and said food production must be increased in the next year lest millions go hungry. "We shall have maintained our milk supply and our cattle and sheep populations," he added, "and we have both a reserve of meat on the hoof and a large additional store of cereals in stacks and barns, whatever emergency arises this winter."

## BRITAIN WANTS CARTEL TO WORK AGAINST AXIS

From London, July 11, the UP wires that Great Britain has consulted with the United States in hopes that the American republics, meeting in Havana, will cooperate in preventing their surplus products from reaching the axis powers, according to an announcement Thursday night. Britain is anxious to coordinate European and American plans for pooling these surpluses in order to keep them out of the dictators' hands.

## GOERING HITS CARTEL PLAN

An UP dispatch from Berlin, July 11, says that Field Marshal Goering's newspaper, the Essener National Zeitung, warned South American nations Thursday against allowing the United States to impose a monopoly over their exports and thereby jeopardize their post-war trade. The paper added that an export cartel would mean that the United States would secure control of the entire foreign trade of South America, which, it argued, now stands to gain greatly by developing trade connections with Germany and Italy.

## DEFENSE PROGRAM FACES UNUSUAL SHORTAGES

The New York Journal of Commerce, July 11, says that unusual shortages are showing up in necessary materials for the national defense program. The War Department, buying shoes recently, asked the shoe industry to submit alternative bids on the proposals--shoes sewed with cotton thread and shoes sewed with linen thread. The reason for this request is the fact that the supply of linen thread is running low, and it must be conserved, so that ample supplies will be available for making parachutes.

Nazi Grab OfJersey Won'tHurt U.S.Cattle

"If German invasion of the little cattle-raising islands of Jersey and Guernsey off the French coast should cut off completely U. S. importation of Jersey and Guernsey cattle, it would have no important effect on the cattle industry of this country, in the opinion of experts here. We already have in the U. S. 237,430 registered Guernseys and 252,811 registered Jerseys. These are the pure-bred cattle, both of whose parents were registered pure breeds. In addition, there is a much larger number of those known as "grades," which are the Jersey or Guernsey strain, but which are not eligible for registration..... Imports of Guernseys have totaled only 52 in the last decade, and we have brought in from Jersey only 1,749 head -- all registered cattle." (Science News Letter, July 13)

Closest CornRoots AbsorbMost Water

In the Botanical Gazette (June) Dr. Charles H. Davis, of the University of Arizona, reports on experiments which demonstrated that corn roots push themselves deep and far through the soil, yet the ones that are nearest the parent plant are most efficient in absorbing water. Doctor Davis grew young corn plants in boxes of soil which permitted the development of a four-foot spread of roots, each box provided with one glass side, so that the roots could be accurately counted and measured. Measurements of soil moisture, taken every four inches along the length of the boxes, showed that roots nearest the plants absorbed water faster than did longer roots pushing out to greater distances.

Poultry PlanOf ImprovementShows Progress

Western Farm Life, July 1, says in part: "Seventy-five representatives of poultry interests in eight western states heard progress reports, discussed problems facing hatcherymen and breeders, and helped to make a three-point program for the industry at the first western regional conference of the National Poultry Improvement Plan held at Salt Lake City in June. Burley Winton, in charge of poultry investigations at the government research center, Beltsville, Md., who occupied the chair, outlined the aims of the regional conference, after which Paul B. Zumbro, senior co-ordinator of the organization, detailed its accomplishments since its beginning in 1936, and discussed major problems in administering the plan throughout the nation. The only states not cooperating with the Federal Government in furthering the plan are California, Nevada, Montana, and Pennsylvania. An important accomplishment named was a ten per cent egg-production increase per bird."



Drive To Have                      A special dispatch from Madison, Wisconsin, to  
Congress Place                    the Dairy Record, July 3, says that a new drive to  
Dairying In AAA                   have Congress place dairying under the AAA as a  
   basic commodity is forecast by some Wisconsin dairy  
leaders, as the result of a poll conducted by the 71 county committees  
of the Wisconsin Agricultural Conservation Committee. Ranking second  
in favor and the most popular in 31 counties was that dairy products  
be made a basic commodity and that dairy farmers receive payments for  
controlling production and for carrying out good herd practices. Many  
committees also went on record for parity payments for dairy products.

Evidence                                "Soon to face the American people is this ques-  
Discounts                              tion: should the United States, in the upsets grow-  
"Famine"                                ing out of the present war as in the last war, under-  
   take the responsibility of feeding the population of  
conquered territories in Europe? Evidence gathered by the United  
States Department of Agriculture greatly discounts European famine  
stories. The facts of the matter, as gathered officially, appear to  
be these: Western Europe normally produces four-fifths of its food  
supplies, importing one-fifth. In case of necessity this part of  
the continent could tighten its belt and exist," (U.S. News Week, July 5.)

New Electric                            The Tennessee Valley Authority has announced a  
Cabinet Ages                           new electric aging cabinet for ham that ages the ham  
Hams Quickly                           in seven weeks, instead of one to two years, as was  
   formerly required in a smokehouse, according to a  
story in Business Week, July 6. Developed in cooperation with the  
agricultural extension services in the Tennessee Valley states, the  
cabinet is described as a simple box-like affair "insulated and  
equipped with a new 200-watt electric bulb and thermostat connected  
by an extension cord and plugged into any service outlet."

Iowa Farm                                "Iowa farmers' gross income of \$696,192,000  
Income Tops                              topped that of farmers in all other states last  
All States                                year, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported.  
   "The figures included cash income from marketings,  
cash value of products retained on the farm for consumption, and  
government payments." (Christian Science Monitor of July 9.)

More Farmers Visit                    Farmers visiting the various experimental  
Experimental Fields                    fields of Missouri this spring reached a total  
   of 2,615, representing 86 counties as compared  
to more than 2,400 that visited the fields during both the spring and  
summer meetings last year, according to J. Ross Fleetwood, extension  
specialist of the University of Missouri College of Agriculture. (Mis-  
souri Ruralist, July 6.)



BAE Reports On Wool Situation      The BAE, in its latest summary of the wool situation, issued July 11, says that an increase in domestic mill consumption of wool is in prospect for the second half of this year, but price changes in coming months will depend largely upon foreign developments. Recent European developments, according to the report, have considerably altered the situation in South American wool markets. With most continental European countries now included in the British blockade, the U.S., Japan and possibly the United Kingdom are likely to be the only important buyers of South American wool. About half the exports from Argentina and Uruguay are shipped to continental European countries. Sales have been small in South American markets since the German invasion of western Europe. The decline in sales was accompanied by a drop in prices of most grades of wool in Argentina.

Reports of Rain Send Wheat Down      In a dispatch from Chicago, July 11, the AP says that reports of rains over the spring wheat belt had allayed the general crop scare in wheat markets, and that Thursday Chicago wheat dropped  $1\frac{1}{4}$  to  $1-5/8$  cents a bushel.

Sugar Quota Deficits Not To Be Determined      The Sugar Division of the AAA announced Thursday that, unless unusual circumstances which cannot now be foreseen develop before the end of the year, determinations of deficits for the various sugar producing areas supplying the United States' market will not be recommended in 1940 and, in consequence, that there will be no reallocation of such deficits as in prior years. It was pointed out that under present price conditions in the sugar market and in view of the supplies available to consumers there would be no necessity for such determinations.

War Holds Up Export Program      "Uncertainty as to which way the war will swing is holding up virtually the entire farm export program. Right now, and until the war swings, the farm program will rely less on export subsidies and more on food and cotton stamp plans to increase consumption of farm surpluses at home." (Nebraska Farmer, June 29.)

Brazil Has Wheat Deficiency      "The major agricultural product in which Brazil is deficient is wheat, and imports of wheat and flour have made up about two-thirds of the total value of the country's agricultural imports in recent years. Wheat growing in Brazil has not been very successful up to now. The climate is too warm and too wet in many places, and the grain either spoils or fails to harden. In spite of this, the Brazilian government has made extensive experiments, and hopes eventually to discover or develop a wheat that will mature well on the eastern highlands." (Feedstuffs, July 6.)

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXVIII, No. 10

Section 1

July 15, 1940.

## ITALY THREATENS REPRISAL TO CARTEL PLAN

An Ap dispatch from Rome, July 14, says that Virginio Gayda, Fascist editor who often reflects official opinion, forecast a European economic line-up for reprisal against any American continental blockade. Gayda's prediction laid sponsorship of an alleged blockade scheme to the U.S., asserting that such a plan would "raise the problem of freedom of international trade, which surely cannot find useful assistance in this grandiose commercial blockade of the Americas meditated at Washington."

## FARMERS HIT HARDEST BY WAR CONDITIONS

"Agriculture is being affected more adversely by conditions in Europe than any other segment of the nation, Henry H. Heimann, executive manager of the National Association of Credit Men, declared in the association's monthly business review, out today." (New York Times, July 15.)

## HEDGING AND RAINS PUSH WHEAT DOWN

"Increased hedging pressure against the movement of the new Winter wheat crop in the Southwest and beneficial rains in the Spring wheat area went the prices on the (Chicago) Board of Trade last week to the lowest levels since September 1, 1939, and closing trades on Saturday were about the bottom." (New York Times, July 14.)

## COTTON USED IN JUNE LESS THAN IN MAY

"The Census Bureau reported Saturday that cotton consumed during June totaled 556,529 bales of lint and 79,254 bales of linters, compared with 636,467 and 92,052 during May this year, and 578,436 and 72,699 during June last year." (Washington Star, July 14.)

## POPULATION TREND AWAY FROM CITIES

"Reversing a trend of many decades, during which American cities as a whole have shown a greater relative increase in population than country districts, other areas are now growing faster than cities. This is the most important fact so far revealed in the returns from the 1940 census, Dr. Leon E. Truesdell, chief population statistician in the Census Bureau pointed out yesterday. Though Washington and a few other cities have registered large gains in population since 1930, most cities are growing slowly, and some have reported a smaller population than 10 years ago." (Washington Star, July 14.)



Cotton Gin,  
Food Lockers  
Lead Co-ops

In its yearly review of agricultural cooperation, the FCA News For Farmer Cooperatives, July, says: "Among the new kinds of cooperative enterprises, the co-op cotton gins lead the list. About 300, or more than half the total, have been organized in the past five or six years, and there has been no let-up in the rate of organization or the growth of individual units in the past year.....Frozen food locker plants represent another distinct development in which farmers' cooperatives have participated in no small degree.....The 2,000-odd modern-type locker plants which dot the United States are almost entirely the product of the last five years. Of these, nearly 300 are farmer-owned and controlled....."

Secretary  
Announces  
CEA Shift

Secretary Wallace announced Friday that Dr. Joseph W. T. Duvel, Chief of the Commodity Exchange Administration, will, at his own request, become Associate Chief on August 1, after 38 years service in the USDA. Doctor Duvel asked to be relieved of his administrative responsibilities in order to devote most of his time until retirement to research. He has agreed, at the Secretary's request, to continue to be available as staff advisor on policy questions involving commodity marketing problems. The Secretary announced that Joseph M. Mehl, Assistant Chief of the Commodity Exchange Administration, will succeed Doctor Duvel as chief.

Farmers Grow  
Less Vegetables  
For Home Use

The National Seedsman for July says that "vegetable gardens on Iowa farms in 1919 were each producing sixty-five dollars' worth of food, and eighty-six percent of the farms had such gardens. In 1934 Iowa's percentage of farm gardens had dropped to only fifty-four percent, or about one garden for each two farms. The value of vegetables produced had dropped from \$65 per garden to only \$15. Accurate figures for 1940 are not available, but it is safe to say that the situation, if anything, has gone from bad to worse. And Iowa does not stand alone....."

107,799 Sugar  
Growers Get  
\$45,266,000

The Sugar Division of the AAA Saturday made public the 247 conditional payments of \$10,000 or more to participants in the 1938 sugar program in the continental sugar beet area, mainland sugarcane area, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. The total number of growers taking part in the program was 107,799 and the total payments amounted to \$45,266,000, or an average of \$420 per grower.

Farmers Get Two  
Million Tons of  
Lime From AAA

The AAA announced Saturday that farmers ordered more than 300,000 tons of liming materials under the grant of aid program during June, bringing the total for the year to approximately 2 million tons.



Cheese Export  
Rules Tighten  
In Canada

From Ottawa, July 14, the Associated Press says that the Canadian Dairy Products Board has ordered that no company or individual may export cheese without the board's permission, according to an order published in the Canada Gazette. The board also ordered that any organization in Canada holding more than 200 boxes of cheddar cheese must report immediately to the board the quantity held by such organizations on July 1.

AAA Program  
Would Step Up  
Efficiency

More emphasis on soil conservation, increased opportunity for county AAA committees to adapt the AAA program to individual farm requirements, and strengthening of the Ever-Normal Granary have been recommended for the 1941 AAA Farm Program by a national conference of State AAA committeemen and officials, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration announced today. The recommendations, which will form the basis for specific drafting of program provisions later, do not change the general outlines of the present AAA program. The recommendations announced today were adopted at a four-day meeting attended by approximately 200 State AAA committeemen and field officials which ended here late Saturday. Representatives of the State Agricultural Extension Services and Vocational Agriculture also attended. The national meeting brought together the recommendations of previous State, county, and community groups of farmers.

Farm Population  
Up 2,076,000  
In Decade

The farm population on January 1, 1940, was 32,245,000, the largest in 24 years, according to estimates of the BAE. It was close to the 1916 all-time high record of 32,530,000. The 1940 farm population figure is 186,000 more than last year and a total increase for the past 10 years of 2,076,000. The Bureau's estimates are based upon reports from 13,609 farmers in all parts of the country, supplying information for 78,544 farms. During the 1930's, net migration from farms was 2,179,000 persons, as against approximately 6,000,000 leaving farms during the 1920's. This difference of more than 60 percent is traceable to the depression of 1929, which decreased urban employment opportunities for rural youth.

The increase in farm population during the 1930's was due to an excess of births over deaths. Births totaled 7,361,000; deaths totaled 3,313,000. The largest increase in farm population during the past 10 years was in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi. The areas most severely affected by the droughts of 1934 and 1936 report increases before 1935 and decreases thereafter. The difference is especially marked in the West North Central States where an increase of 78,000 for the first 5 years was offset by a decrease of 268,000 from 1935-40.



Electric Line Plans Ready For Any Purpose Rural Electrification Administrator Harry Slattery has just made available to the National Defense Council, standard plans and specifications for building electric transmission lines. These will permit speedy and efficient construction of power lines in any part of the country where national defense may require them. They are designed not to meet any specific local situation but to be available for any need, emergency or otherwise, which may confront the Defense Council.

Hired Farm Labor Rates Increase The general level of wage rates paid to hired farm labor on July 1 was 3 points above the July level a year ago, the Agricultural Marketing Service said Saturday in its report on farm labor. At 129 percent of the 1910-14 level on July 1, the index number of wage rates was 5 points higher than on April 1, though the increase was less than the usual seasonal gain for the 3 month period.

Cincinnati Milk Hearing July 17 A public hearing to consider proposed amendments on adjustment to producer prices and related provisions of the Cincinnati, Ohio, milk marketing program will be held July 17 at Cincinnati, the Surplus Marketing Administration of the USDA announced Friday.

Topeka Milk License Terminated The Surplus Marketing Administration of the USDA Friday announced termination, effective July 31, of the Federal license for the handling of milk in the Topeka, Kansas, milk sales area. The Federal milk marketing program continues in effect under a marketing agreement.

Wheat and Corn Inspections For Export Drop Inspections of United States wheat for export during the 1939-40 season, ending June 30, were only a little over a fourth those of the previous season, the Agricultural Marketing Service reported Friday. Inspections of corn for export were around one-half those of a year earlier. Inspections for export of all classes of wheat from July 1939 through June 1940 totaled only 22,865,000 bushels compared with 83,897,000 bushels for the 1938-39 season. Inspections of corn for export during 1939-40 were 31,115,000 bushels against 61,936,000 bushels for the previous crop year.

Tokay Grapes Market Pact To Be Offered The Surplus Marketing Administration of the USDA announced Saturday that a proposed Federal marketing agreement program for Tokay grapes produced in California will be placed before the industry for approval.

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Vol. LXXVIII, No. 11

Section 1

July 16, 1940.

## CARTEL MEETING SEEN IMPORTANT TO FOREIGN TRADE

"Latin American nations have yet to feel the full effect of the changed demand in Europe with Great Britain now remaining virtually the sole buyer, according to a survey of foreign trade opinion Monday. Reduced export receipts in the coming months are expected also to restrict trade with the United States, probably slowing up payment for goods purchased in this country in some instances. In such a situation the suggested export cartel for the Americas scheduled for discussion at the Havana conference might be expected to have an important bearing on foreign trade prospects....." (New York Journal of Commerce, July 16.)

## RED CROSS FOOD SHIP LANDS IN MARSEILLE

From Grenoble, France, July 15, the UP wires that an American Red Cross shipment of 6,000 tons of foodstuffs intended for French children arrived in Marseille Monday through the British Mediterranean blockade, according to the newspaper, Petit Dauphinois. The shipment consists mainly of condensed milk and medical supplies. Also included are meat, preserved vegetables, soap, clothing and shoes.

## WHEAT CLIMBING OUT OF CELLAR

From Chicago the AP reports that wheat prices rallied fractionally in late trading Monday, wiping out about half of the earlier 1-cent-a-bushel decline that established the lowest quotations chalked up on Board of Trade blackboards since last September 1.

## BRAZIL LOSES TRADE BALANCE WITH U. S.

From Rio de Janeiro, July 15, the UP says that Brazil's traditionally "favorable" trade balance with the United States disappeared in the first three months of 1940, according to statistics revealed Monday. "Favorable" balances from 1936 to 1939, inclusive, were as follows: 1936, 2,280,000 pounds sterling; 1937, 2,450,000 pounds sterling; 1938, 740,000 pounds sterling; 1939, 895,000 pounds sterling. In the first three months of 1940, the United States sold Brazil 4,113,223 pounds sterling worth of goods and bought only 2,942,946 pounds sterling worth.



Farmers Would  
Penalize Big  
Rented Acreage

In its July number, Wallace's Farmer reports the result of a "representative cross-section of Iowa farm people on the following question: "Do you believe a man who rents a big acreage should be penalized for operation (as distinct from ownership) on land in excess of that required for the liberal support of a farm family."

Sixty percent of those questioned, the magazine reported, voted for some form of penalty, twenty five-percent voted "No" and 15 percent were undecided. The poll also revealed, according to Wallace's Farmer, a more than three to one majority for a graduated land tax in Iowa. "In the part of the state where tenancy is high," the magazine said, "the vote was especially strong for the state to take action in this field. There were parts of the cash grain area in Iowa where it was hard to find a 'No' vote."

War Already  
Changing Live  
Stock Breeds

"What will the future be as regards the particular breeds of livestock in Denmark, Holland and Belgium, countries now under the control of German forces? It takes a century to develop a great breed of livestock, yet under modern war conditions the work of a century may be obliterated within a few days' time. Denmark has given the world two great breeds -- the Red Danish cow and the Landrace hog. Holland's pride is the Friesian, and Belgium, the Belgian drafter. The destruction of these breeds would be a major loss to the livestock husbandry of the world. Reports already indicate that changes are in prospect as far as the Landrace breed of hogs is concerned. Bred for centuries for bacon purposes, Germany is already changing the breeding program to meet its immediate needs, that of meat and lard, and as a result a great breed may pass out of the livestock picture, at least for many years to come....." (New England Homestead, June 29.)

Wind Erosion  
Irks Farmers  
Of Minnesota

The Farmer, July 13, says in part: "Some 3,500,000 acres of Minnesota farm lands are subject to serious wind erosion. The heaviest losses from this cause are suffered in an area extending from Canada through Kittson, Marshall, Polk, Norman, Clay, Wilkin, and Traverse Counties. This problem is being attacked by means of a wind erosion control 'demonstration' project, located in Norman County. The project includes some 40,000 acres within which 33 farms covering some 10,000 acres have been selected as 'demonstration' farms. These 33 farms will serve as 'show windows' for wind erosion control practices. For each of the 33 demonstration farms, a cooperative agreement between the farmer and the U. S. Soil Conservation Service is signed in which the farmer agrees to follow for at least five years a specified soil saving program."



Farm Paper  
Analyzes  
G.O.P. Plank

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer, July 13, analyzes the Republican farm plank as it affects the Iowa farmer. "The first thing farmers noticed about the Republican farm plank was that it came out flat-footed against production control. The second thing was that it favored some kind of commodity loans. And these two observations were followed by the thought: 'How can you have the present kind of corn loans without production control?' This part of the plank was a blow to Republican farmers in Iowa because about half of them, in our recent survey, said they thought the Republicans, if elected, would continue the practice of acreage control and corn loans.....We can summarize the principal points, as shown by surveys of Iowa farm opinion, and by the Republican platform:

Iowa farmers favor:

Acreage control  
 Corn loans  
 Conservation payments  
 Parity payments  
 Surplus distribution

Republican plank:

Opposes  
 Doubtful  
 Favors  
 Favors  
 Favors."

Agriculture  
Should Have  
Own Museum

"The United States is the only major agricultural country without a national agricultural museum. It is high time that we give much thought to our agricultural history and to the preservation of the implements, practices and thinking with which it was developed. It is none too soon and really may be too late.

"Old implements, utensils and garments have rotted or rusted away or have been destroyed in fires which consumed their storage places. Old letters, documents, diaries, account books and files of local papers which might reveal historic information are being consigned to the trash baskets and flames by uninformed or uninterested owners.....

"More progress in agriculture has taken place during the 300 years of American farming than in all previous recorded history. Present and future generations of Americans have a right to the history of this progress adequately portrayed, not only in the national capital, but at many other suitable points throughout our vast country." (Pennsylvania Farmer of July 13.)

Lockers Allow  
Year Round  
Slaughtering

"The prediction made several years ago when locker plants first began to be built, that slaughtering of meat animals for home consumption, long a winter chore, would eventually become a year round practice where locker plant facilities were available is fast becoming true. Locker plant operators from Colorado to Ohio report that their June processing business is far above previous years." (Locker Patron, July.)



Japs Continue  
To Sell Cotton  
Goods In P.I.

"The Department of State Monday announced that it had arranged with the Japanese Embassy for the extension of the existing arrangement relating to importation of Japanese cotton piece goods into the Phillipine Islands for another year beginning August 1." (New York Journal of Commerce, July 16.)

\$1,000 Fine For  
Unlawful Sale  
Of Hog Serum

For violating the Federal Virus-Serum-Toxin Law dealing with the production and sale of serums and other biological products intended for the treatment of domestic animals, the Marrinan Supply Co. Inc., of St. Paul, Minn., has been found guilty by the jury of the United States District Court for the district of Minnesota. The court on June 29 imposed a fine of \$1,000. Evidence in the case was gathered by inspectors of the Bureau of Animal Industry, USDA., which administers the law.

Stem Rust  
Damaging  
Kansas Wheat

There are now indications that stem rust will cause considerable damage in the east-central part of Kansas this year, the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, said Monday. About a third of the wheat fields have been severely damaged in the Emporia, Florence, Eldorado, Newton, and McPherson areas. Fields of Chiefkan, however, of which there are many, show no kernel shrinkage. Although rust has increased considerably on late wheat in Iowa, particularly weak-strawed varieties in which there has been lodging, heavy infection is not general enough to cause more than slight loss for the State as a whole. The varieties Iowin and Iobred have been resistant wherever examined. Wheat was being cut last week.

Flue-Cured  
Quota Rules  
Approved

Flue-cured tobacco marketing quota regulations for the 1940-41 marketing year have been approved by Secretary Wallace, it was announced Monday by the AAA. These regulations bring into effect for the first time the amendments which growers requested after the 1938-39 marketing season in order to simplify and strengthen the tobacco quotas.

Argentina Is  
Developing  
Rice Industry

"Development of the rice industry in Argentina has been so rapid in the last decade that the country is practically self-sufficient in this commodity. Internal consumption in Argentina is estimated at 80,000 to 90,000 tons a year, and the 1939-40 harvest is expected to exceed this figure." (New York Herald Tribune, July 16.)

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXVIII, No. 12

Section 1

July 17, 1940.

## ARGENTINA'S EAR TUNED TO EUROPE'S TRADE

From Buenos Aires, July 16, the AP wires that Argentina will enter the Havana Conference Sunday "with one ear tuned to the Pan-American pleas of her neighbors and the other stretched toward the European powers which control three-fourths of her markets. Fears of losing these markets, intensified by the war abroad, make it unlikely that the key nation in South American defense can be drawn into any plan of hemisphere solidarity which might offend Great Britain or the totalitarian states of Europe."

## "ONE-ARM FARM-SYSTEM" FORMING IN SOUTH

From Atlanta, July 16, the AP wires that Southern representatives, contending a "one-arm farm system" has developed in Dixie areas, continued their fight before Interstate Commerce Commission examiners Tuesday for lower rates on livestock hauling. Dr. Clarence Poe of Raleigh, Editor of the Progressive Farmer, told the board that Southern states should be given "equal opportunity" to revive livestock raising.

## WHEAT FUTURES GAIN 2 1/8 CENTS

The AP wires from Chicago, July 16, that wheat futures Tuesday made the most impressive show of strength in a fortnight, shooting up as much as 2-1/8 cents a bushel and closing virtually the highest for the session. Corn lagged.

## S.A. SEES NAZI ECONOMIC DRIVE IN TWO MONTHS

From Arica, Chile, Joseph S. Edgerton, Aviation Editor of the Washington Star, writes, July 16, that "There are many straws in the wind pointing to a smashing German economic drive for domination of South American markets as soon as the Nazis gain a clear hand in Europe. South Americans who are watching the shadows of coming events with anxious eyes fear that the Nazi campaign in South American republics will begin within two months, particularly along the Atlantic coast."

How to Save  
Tomato Seed

B. P. Krone writes in the Victoria (Australia) Journal of Agriculture for June on "Saving Tomato Seed." He says, in part: "A good plan when saving tomato seed is to mark plants which show good cropping habits, good shape and quality fruit, and freedom from disease, and allow the fruit to ripen thoroughly before harvesting. In a badly diseased field, an occasional healthy plant with tomatoes of good quality is rare, but if noticed, always save the seed, because it is possible that this may prove a good and disease-resisting variety. This is preferable to selecting just the nicely-shaped tomato, as is frequently done, because some of those nicely-shaped tomatoes may not inherit other desirable characteristics. It should be pointed out that a flat-round variety frequently becomes more oval late in the season, and an oval variety sometimes elongates, therefore this feature is misleading..."

South Dakota  
Livestock Men  
Cooperate

"South Dakota Farmers, realizing that 75 percent of their income is obtained from livestock and livestock products, have cooperated in one of the most constructive livestock programs anywhere," says The Farmer, July 13. "County livestock associations have been formed and in operation for five years. These have been represented by an able, energetic State Livestock Committee. Through their united efforts, South Dakota was added to the list of accredited tuberculosis-free states, and helped to pass a stallion enrollment law. Work is now being done to enact a predatory animal law."

USDA Machine  
Picks Flowers  
Of Pyrethrum

"Prior to 1914, Dalmatia supplied almost the whole of the pyrethrum imports, but the World War cut off that supply and Japan captured the market. Kenya, in British East Africa, has been growing pyrethrum of late, and supplied nearly one-fifth of the 1937 imports. The pyrethrum plant is related to the garden chrysanthemums, and grows well in the United States but the crop calls for too much hand labor. The USDA has developed a harvester for pyrethrum flowers, thus eliminating the extensive hand labor necessary to produce this much needed insecticide in the United States." (Pests, July.)

Advises Against  
Over-Expansion

"'A prophecy today may make us look like fools tomorrow,' says W. F. Gahm, president of the Production Credit Corporation of Kentucky, in warning farmers against over-expansion of crops and live stock in anticipation of better prices as a result of the war in Europe." (Farmer's Guide, July 13.)



Sugar Cane  
Area Hearings  
July 29-Aug. 6

The Sugar Division of the AAA Tuesday announced that public hearings will be held between July 29 and August 6 in Louisiana and Florida for the purpose of receiving evidence on fair and reasonable prices for the 1940 crop of sugarcane and on wage rates for persons employed in the harvesting of that crop and in the planting and cultivating of the 1941 crop. The Sugar Act of 1937 provides, as one of the conditions of payment to growers, that all persons employed in the production, cultivation, or harvesting of sugarcane be paid at rates not less than those determined by the Secretary to be fair and reasonable.

Flour Export  
Program Extends  
To the Americas

The USDA Tuesday announced extension of its flour export program to include provision for payments in connection with exports of flour from all parts of the continental United States to the Americas. Export destinations under the program extension will include countries in the American continents and adjacent islands lying west of 40° West Longitude. In making the daily announcements of flour export payment rates, the term "The Americas" will be used, and it is to be construed as including the destinations described above.

Funds Allocated  
States For  
Tenant Loans

The Farm Security Administration announced today allocation among states and territories of \$50,000,000 for loans to tenants for purchase of farms under the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act. Designed to help worthy farm families climb from tenancy or sharecropping into ownership, the tenant purchase program already has aided some 13,000 farm families to buy family-sized farms of their own through loans from a total of \$75,000,000 appropriated for this purpose during the last three years. Under the terms of the Bankhead-Jones Act, the distribution of funds is based upon farm population and the prevalence of tenancy in the various states and territories.

Everybody Likes  
Food Stamp Plan;  
All Benefit

In an analysis of the phenomenal success of the Food Stamp Plan, Pathfinder, July 13, says that the growth of the plan is attributed to two reasons:

(1) The troublous events abroad have cut off many markets for farm products normally exported, thus piling up bigger surpluses over here, and (2) No important group opposes the plan. Business men like it because it works through grocers and is thus within the profit system; farmers like it because it provides them with a fair-price market for their otherwise unsaleable surpluses; relief clients like it because it expands their food budget; the public likes it because it prevents dissatisfaction among farmers and relievers and because destruction of the food would be silly.



Weekly Crop  
Bulletin

According to the Weather and Crop Bulletin rainfall for the first half of July was considerably below normal in nearly all sections north of the Cotton Belt. However, in Southern States the amounts continued heavy, ranging up to about twice the normal in central Gulf districts. The outstanding dry districts were eastern Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, eastern Nebraska and northwestern Texas. An outstanding feature of the week's weather in relation to agriculture was the continuation of frequent rains in much of the South, where farm work was delayed with fields grassy and badly in need of cultivation. These conditions were especially prominent in most of Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and parts of Tennessee and Texas. In the Ohio Valley timely showers during the week were helpful, but in general cool weather retarded the growth of warm weather crops in that area, as well as in most other sections east of the Mississippi River.

There was unusually heavy wind and hail damage in the upper Mississippi Valley and some adjoining areas, especially in parts of Iowa, Wisconsin, southeastern Minnesota, and eastern South Dakota. In Iowa some 400 farms were devastated in Shelby and Harrison Counties, necessitating the replanting to other crops of some 60,000 acres. In Wisconsin hailstones were reported  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter. From the Rocky Mountains westward the continued heat has required heavy drafts on irrigation water with dwindling supplies or shortages reported from many districts.

Winter wheat harvest made good progress quite generally under favorable weather conditions, much of the week being ideal for this work. In the eastern Corn Belt low temperature continued to retard growth. While rainfall was scanty in most of the principal producing areas, soil moisture is still sufficient to maintain satisfactory growth, except in parts of the southwest. In the Cotton Belt abnormally low temperatures continued, while persistent, heavy rains were quite detrimental in many sections.

Phenothiazine  
And Farm Help

Phenothiazine, the new insecticide that has been discussed in farm magazines so much of late, has already "run into trouble," according to the Farm Journal and Farmer's Wife for August. "Acute cases of 'sun-burn' suffered by orchard workers have been found by Stanford University scientists to be the result of inhaling phenothiazine," the story says. "Research experiments indicated that while the chemical had no effect when daubed on the skin and the skin exposed to sun lamps, when it was taken by mouth the skin was highly sensitive to light. The scientists suggest, in a report to the American Medical Association, that workers protect themselves by wearing masks to prevent inhalation of the fumes, and also by wearing suitable clothing to keep out the light, or by covering exposed skin areas with a protective coating such as zinc oxide ointment or even some of the phenothiazine itself.

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXVIII, No. 13

Section 1

July 18, 1940.

## ROOSEVELT URGED TO ATTEND TRADE MEET IN HAVANA

From Havana, July 17, the UP wires that unconfirmed reports circulated in Havana Wednesday night said that President Roosevelt would be urged to attend the Havana Pan-American Conference before it adjourns. The White House declined to comment on the possibility of the President's making such a trip.

## FEATURES OF DEMOCRATIC FARM PLANK

Among the features of the Democratic farm plank announced in Chicago Wednesday, are included: Parity and soil conservation payments "until such time as the goal of parity income for agriculture is realized;" extension of the tenant purchase program; refinancing of existing farm debts at lower interest rates and on longer and more flexible terms; adjustment of production "through Democratic processes to the extent that excess surpluses are capable of control;" continuation of commodity loans; expansion of domestic consumption of surpluses through programs now in operation; continuation of "our substantially increased" appropriation for research and extension work through the land grant colleges; strengthening of the ever-normal granary; expansion of the REA and the encouragement of farmer owned and controlled cooperatives.

## ROME TALKS OF CONFLICT FOR S. AM. TRADE

From Rome, Allen Raymond wires the New York Herald Tribune, July 17, that rumbles of an approaching conflict for the trade of South America between the United States and a solid European continent ruled by the Axis powers are the loudest noises to be heard in Rome today. Through the Italian press, Mr. Raymond says, one can hear the talk of the economic program involved in the new totalitarian Europe, in which France will be only a province and Britain will be powerless.

## 18 COMMODITIES MOVE DOWNWARD

According to the AP, July 18, major commodities moved downward almost in a body in futures markets Wednesday. The weighted index of 35 commodities set a new low for the year. Wheat at Chicago ended  $3/4$  to  $1/8$  cents a bushel lower. Corn, however, was  $3/8$  to  $1/4$  up.



Corn is 10%  
Better Feed  
Than Barley

F. W. Bell, Animal Husbandry, Kansas State College, reports, in the Modern Miller for July 13, that, although barley is a fairly satisfactory substitute for corn as a feed for livestock, the feeding value of barley is not equal to that of corn pound for pound. The difference in feeding value in favor of corn over barley is at least 10 percent. In other words, Doctor Bell says that 90 pounds of corn is fully equal to 100 pounds of barley for fattening livestock. To get the best results from feeding barley as a hog feed, he adds, the grain should be ground or crushed. Feeding whole barley is not an economical practice.

Four Possible  
Trade Empires  
Seen After Wars

The United States News, July 19, says that the United States soon may find itself isolated in a totalitarian world. Policy making officials have, of late, been re-examining this country's foreign trade policies and appraising the effect on American business of prospective victories by Germany in Europe and by Japan in Asia. These officials see forming in the world four important economic empires: 1. Europe and possibly North Africa, where 400,000,000 people will be dominated by Germany. 2. China and perhaps Southeast Asia, where at least 450,000,000 people will be controlled by Japan. 3. Russia, dominating 200,000,000 people in Central Europe and Central Asia. 4. The United States and Canada, with 150,000,000 people.

Influence of  
Prices on  
Consumption

Evidence of the economic forces of cause and effect which influence national consumption of farm products is contained in a report published recently by the Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics at the University of California. Compiled by Professor H. R. Wellman, the report shows how national consumption of canned peaches has been influenced over the past fifteen years by fluctuations in prices received by California canners, prices of competing products, and non-agricultural income. During that period, says the report, each one dollar increase in the f. o. b. price received by California canners has on the average resulted in a drop of 5,856,000 cases in the amount of peaches consumed. When the index of non-agricultural income showed a rise of ten points, the nation bought an average of 2,826,000 more cases. When the adjusted index of prices of competing products dropped ten points, the national consumption of canned peaches dropped an average of 1,384,000 cases.

New Mormon  
Cricket Poison  
Has 75% Kill

"A new poison is being used in the West to poison Mormon crickets. Early Spring trials were so promising that the new method boasts it may replace the costlier one (dusting) previously used. The new method calls for a poison bait -- a mixture of bran, sawdust and sodium fluosilicate. Tried in various regions last year, 75% kill was obtained on treated areas." (Farm Journal and Farmer's Wife, August.)



Exporters Want  
'Labor Fee' for  
Cotton Goods

"With both Government and industry aware of the necessity of increasing domestic consumption in order to offset the loss of foreign markets for cotton, textile exporters feel that the time is ripe for Administration officials to consider the adoption of a labor equalization fee on exports of cotton goods. Exporters, it seems, prefer the term 'labor equalization fee' to the phrase 'export subsidy' on the ground that subsidy connotes a gift, whereas they feel that some return is due them since they were virtually forced to abandon many foreign markets when the domestic cotton industry yielded to Government pressure for the adoption of the forty-hour work week and minimum wages considerably in excess of those paid in countries which compete in world textile markets." (New York Journal of Commerce, July 18.)

Virus Diseases  
Make Attack  
on Chlorophyll

Drs. G. A. Kausche and H. Ruska have announced that virus diseases of plants, like tobacco mosaic, that produce colorless patches in the leaves, do so by direct attack upon the green chlorophyll particles. This has been demonstrated in photographs made with the electron microscope at the Siemens-Halske laboratory in Berlin. The pictures, at 19,000 diameters, show the characteristic rod-shaped giant molecules of the virus in intimate contact with chlorophyll granules. These molecules are not visible in electron pictures made of preparations from healthy leaves. (Science Service.)

BAE Says Dairy  
Production is  
Unusually High

"The volume of dairy production is unusually high, but consumption also has been high. Stocks are only about average for this season of the year. In June the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation purchased butter, cheese, evaporated milk, and dry skim. The British Purchasing Commission has also bought quantities of evaporated and dry skim. These purchases tended to strengthen the prices of manufactured dairy products.

"It seems probable that prices of dairy products during the last half of 1940 will average higher than in the last half of 1939. The principal factor accounting for this improvement will be the higher level of consumer purchasing power. It is expected also that there will be a considerable increase in exports of manufactured dairy products.

"The outlook for the summer and fall is for heavier production than in 1939 unless the weather should be unfavorable. Pastures are better than a year ago, there are more cows on farms, and prices of dairy products are more favorable for the production of dairy products. Total milk production on July 1 was about 2 percent above the preceding peak for that date a year earlier. The output of manufactured dairy products in May was the second largest on record for that month; on a per capita basis production was about 10 percent above the 1924-29 average." (The Dairy Situation, BAE.)



Livestock in  
Ark. Increases  
80 Percent

In tracing the progress of farming in the State of Arkansas during the past ten years, the Arkansas Farmer says that "the secret of much of the agricultural development in the state has been the remarkable expansion of livestock production. The value of all livestock in Arkansas has increased more than eighty percent during the past decade, a record accentuated by the fact that the U. S. as a whole has lost twenty percent in livestock value during the same period...We believe that the advancement of the state agriculturally as well as industrially during the past decade is generally responsible for the fact that Arkansas now boasts a sounder financial condition than has existed for many years..."

Recent Rate of  
Improvement  
Slowing Down

Improvement in business conditions affecting the domestic demand for farm products has continued into July, the BAE reported Wednesday in its monthly analysis of the demand and price situation. Industrial employment and payrolls have risen along with the expansion of industrial output since April. Domestic consumer demand for meats, dairy and poultry products, fruits and vegetables has been strengthened by this stimulation of domestic business and is expected to be better during the last half of 1940 than during either the final half of 1939 or the first 6 months of 1940.

The Bureau pointed out, however, that the recent rate of improvement in demand conditions is slowing down and that the greater part of the present rise in industrial production may be over.

The outlook for farm product exports both for the immediate and the longer-time future is highly unsatisfactory -- particularly for cotton. The loss of export outlets for farm products brought about by the closing of additional continental European markets will continue without effective offsets for the duration of the war, although the stoppage of supplies of dried and canned fruits and vegetables from the Mediterranean area may later result in larger United States exports of these products than in recent months. (Press Release.)

REA Enlarging  
Rural Electric  
Facilities

Allotments totaling \$4,007,500 for rural electrification systems in 13 States, were announced Wednesday by Harry Slattery, Administrator of REA. These allotments provide for the establishment of 4 new systems, and the enlargement of 15 others. This brings allotments made by REA since it was established in 1935 to \$287,834,114.

World Controls  
Rubber Amount  
U. S. Can Buy

The New York Journal of Commerce, July 18, says that the amount of rubber which will be available for U.S. Government purchases during the balance of the year will largely depend on the rate of world absorption during the third and fourth quarters of the year. During the first five months of 1940 world absorption has held up remarkably well at an average monthly rate of 95,000 tons, according to the estimates of the International Rubber Regulation Committee. The world absorption figure for May, just announced, was 96,922 tons.

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXVIII, No. 14

Section 1

July 19, 1940.

## WALLACE GIVEN NOMINATION FOR VICE-PRESIDENT

Secretary Wallace was chosen to run for the office of Vice-President of the United States at the Democratic Convention in Chicago Thursday night.

## HULL DEPARTS FOR INTER-AM CONFERENCE

The AP says that Secretary Hull departed yesterday for the emergency Inter-American Conference in Havana, predicting that the 21 nations represented there would deal "realistically" with hemisphere problems arising from the European war.

## WILLKIE CALLS FARM CONFERENCE FOR AUGUST

"Wendell L. Willkie conferred Thursday with Governor George Wilson of Iowa on agricultural problems, and announced that he had requested the Governor to call a farm conference at Des Moines 'about August 5.' At this conference, to be attended by agricultural leaders from all sections of the Midwest, Mr. Willkie expects to discuss fully the problems of the farmer."

## GROCERY TRADE INTERESTS JOIN FOR U.S. DEFENSE

According to the New York Journal of Commerce, July 19, the wholesale grocery trade has joined jobbing interests in other industries in organizing to co-ordinate industry support for national defense plans, M. L. Toulme, secretary of the National Association of Wholesale Grocers, said Thursday.

## FARM COMMODITIES FEEL INFLUENCE OF HEDGING SALES

According to the AP, domestic agricultural commodities Thursday felt the influence of hedging sales incident to harvesting. Other staples, traded on a futures basis, continued on a narrow track. Chicago wheat failed to hold early moderate gains. Closing prices were  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{5}{8}$  of a cent a bushel down. Corn finished unchanged to  $\frac{5}{8}$  of a cent higher.

## COURT ORDERS MILK MARKETING HEARING

Taking unprecedented action, Justice Bolithia J. Laws in District Court Thursday directed a court hearing on Washington's milk marketing situation, beginning at 8 a.m. Tuesday (July 23) and continuing each day at that hour, for two hours, until disposed of. (Washington Star, July 18)



Two Packers  
Ask USDA To  
Grade Products

"Two large California packers, N. Schukl & Co., San Francisco, and U. S. Products Co., San Jose, have voluntarily submitted their 1940 output to continuous government inspection and grading. The A-B-C grading, long the number one plank in the platform of organized consumers, is still the number one bugaboo of many canners. Industry opposition stems principally from the canners whose wares are well advertised, and who feel that grading would kill the value of brand names. The Schukl and U. S. Products defection from the ranks of the embattled industry puts them under the supervision of the Agricultural Marketing Service of the USDA. The AMS selected the two California packers out of half a dozen or so who wanted to undertake the work. Such things as sanitary plants, proper equipment and eagerness to cooperate were taken into consideration in the selection. AMS will have ten inspectors in the chosen plants. Cost of inspection is paid by the canners. As a result, their labels will bear the statement 'These goods were packed under the constant supervision of the USDA and this grade (A, B or C, as the case may be) officially certified.'...Trade analysts estimate that if 25% of the California canneries follow the lead of Schukl and U. S. Products, they will be able to force the grading system on the rest of the industry." (Business Week, July 6)

War Pickup  
Aids Dairy  
Farming

"Increased purchasing power to workers in war industries has advanced the business of dairy farming about 20%, it is estimated by N. J. Cladakis, federal-state administrator for the New York metropolitan marketing area. Improved labor conditions, increased employment and higher wages in war industries have a favorable influence on the prices of milk and other dairy products, Mr. Cladakis stated. Of \$10,000,000 worth of milk handled through his office last May, about \$2,000,000 was above the normal purchases for the period." (Feedstuffs, July 13)

Stamp Plan and  
'Danger Ahead'

An editorial, "Danger Ahead" in the Food Field Reporter for July 8, says, in part: "While the FSCC has some \$85,000,000 more appropriation with which to dispose of surplus foods and farm products during the present fiscal year, this sum is really not a drop in the bucket when computed against the actual market loss of \$800,000,000 and the present burdensome agricultural surpluses which the FSCC is now handling through its own distribution system and the stamp plan. One rather hopeful sign is that the stamp plan is being rapidly expanded, and will be in operation in about 200 cities by early next year. If \$150,000,000 is invested in stamp plan operations, it may mean as much as \$300,000,000 worth of food business, by and large. This still falls rather short of an actual \$800,000,000 loss in export business."



U. S. Would Lend  
Money on S. A.  
Export Surplus

"The United States has done some last minute sail trimming on the eve of the Havana Conference. The present prospect is that the so-called Western Hemisphere cartel plan will not be formally broached by this country. Instead, the U. S. will probably indicate willingness to lend money against some of the exportable surpluses piled up in the other nations. This country will point out that this financial underpinning will greatly improve the countries' position for bargain with European or Asiatic purchasers. Presumably a country receiving an offer from Germany for products against which the U. S. had lent money would communicate with this government to learn what offers were being made to other countries for similar products. Thus the U. S. would build up an informal control over exports, avoid the difficulties of trying to get an agreement on the cartel system, and improve the attitude of Latin Americans toward the U. S." (Newsweek, July 22)

"PDB" Prevents  
Downy Mildew  
on Tobacco

Phytopathology, July, reports that Paradichlorbenzene, a chemical now widely used in combating insect pests, has been found effective in preventing downy mildew, one of the worst diseases of tobacco, in a cooperative research project conducted by the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station and Duke University. PDB, as the compound is called for short, is introduced as a vapor over the seedbeds, which are covered with cotton sheeting to keep the vapor down during the period of fumigation. The odorous gas penetrates into the leaf tissues and kills the deadly fungus threads that are attacking them. At the concentrations used, the chemical is harmless to young tobacco plants. Associated in the research were J. A. Pinckard, Ruth McLean, F. R. Darkis, P. M. Gross and F. A. Wolf.

"Why Pay For  
Farm in Every  
Generation"

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer recently was titled "Why Pay for the Farm in Every Generation?" It said, in part: "A friend says that some people think they are lucky because they 'inherited' a farm. What they inherited was not a farm, but a bunch of debts. By the time all the other heirs are paid off, the 'inheritor' has spent enough to buy a new farm clear of mortgage. But the mortgage on the old place is still heavy. We think that this is a way out: Suppose our friend leaves the farm to his three children, with the provision that no sale can be made unless the one boy on the farm approves. The boy gets a life lease, and has to pay his two sisters a yearly rental based on 3% interest on their share. Furthermore, the boy has a right to pass on, by inheritance, his interest in the farm, including a continuation of the lease..."

Mineral Oil  
Stops Corn  
Ear Worms

The Oregon Experiment Station has been experimenting with Russian mineral oil as a means of keeping corn earworms from ruining sweet corn. (Farm Journal and Farmer's Wife, August.)



Expect Lard  
To Set New  
Use Record

The New York Journal of Commerce, July 19, says that consumption of United States lard will establish a new record for the season ended September 30 if the disappearance continues to gain over last year at the same rate as in recent months, trade circles believe. In May, consumption was 93,869,000 pounds, compared to 71,839,000 for May, 1939.

Grasshoppers  
Cut Way Down  
In Montana

Crop pest No. 1 of 1940, the lesser migratory grasshopper, is now largely under control in the five most severely infested Montana Counties, as a result of an intensive campaign by the Federal Government, State agencies, and the farmers, Lee A. Strong, Chief of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, USDA, said today. There were so many grasshoppers in that section of Montana that at one time a "population" count showed as many as 10,000 young hoppers to a square yard. The grasshoppers have been reduced so that damage to crops is not expected to exceed 10 percent, Doctor Strong said. (Press Release)

Conquests Bring  
Little Food to  
Germany

From Berlin, Wallace R. Deuel wires the Washington Star, July 18, that slight increases in the rations of butter and eggs, and a somewhat greater variety of fresh vegetables available in the markets, are the only improvements in the standard of living in Berlin which have followed the conquest of five neighbor countries this year.

Hearings to  
Reopen Under  
Food Act

"The Federal Security Agency will carry out the program of the USDA to reopen for public hearing under the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act those provisions of the standards for canned peaches, pears, apricots and cherries concerning the use of sugar and corn sugar and the related question of label declaration of the kind of sugar used, according to the announcement by Wayne Coy, Assistant Administrator of the Agency." (N. Y. Journal of Commerce, July 19)

Industry Asked  
to Spend 2%  
On Research

Today's frontiers are in the laboratories and machine shops of industry, Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, said Thursday in a report calling all companies in the United States to spend two percent of their gross income for research. (AP, July 19)

Poverty Features  
Rural Colored  
Youth

Poverty is the most distinguishing feature of rural colored youth, Professor Charles Johnson of Fish University told the closing session of the conference on the needs of Negro youth sponsored by Howard University summer school. (Washington Star, July 18)

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXVIII, No. 15

Section 1

July 22, 1940.

## INSTITUTE WOULD INCREASE COTTON USES BY 25%

The Wall Street Journal, July 22, reports that Dr. Claudius T. Murchison, president of the Cotton-Textile Institute, announced Sunday that the Institute will immediately undertake a nation-wide program to increase American cotton consumption by 25 percent over its record peak, with an objective of 10,000,000 bales a year domestic consumption.

## PEEK CONFERS WITH WILLKIE ON AGRICULTURE

From Colorado Springs, a New York Times dispatch, July 20, says that Wendell L. Willkie conferred Saturday on agricultural and foreign trade problems with George N. Peek, first administrator of the AAA, and formerly special foreign trade adviser to President Roosevelt.

## 1.4% INCREASE IN FOOD COST

The AP, July 21, reports that a 1.4 percent increase in the cost of food was largely responsible for a rise of 0.5 percent in wage earners' living costs in June, according to the National Industrial Conference Board.

## INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE TO GET TOGETHER

The New York Journal of Commerce, July 22, reports that seven prominent New York state manufacturers have accepted invitations extended by Dean E. L. Anthony, Division of Agriculture, Michigan State College, to meet with a representative cross-section of Michigan farmers in an "industrial-agricultural" conference at the institution in East Lansing July 24 and 25.

## CATTLE RAISERS TO HELP UNIFY ALL-AMERICAS

The AP reports from Amarillo, July 20, that Jay Taylor, president of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Association, pledged the assistance of the cattle industry in formulating a long range livestock program to help unify the Western Hemisphere.

## VOTE 4 TO 1 FOR 3-YEAR TOBACCO CROP MAXIMUM

According to the AP, July 21, growers of flue-cured tobacco voted at the rate of about four to one in a six state referendum Saturday for marketing quotas covering a three year period -- 1941 - 1943.



Erosion Control  
Brings Back  
Valley Farms

George C. Stoney, writing in the Survey Graphic for July, says in part: "It's no accident, and not through coercion, that the farmers in the Tennessee Valley have fertile farms where they once owned eroded, sterile acres. The TVA showed them how it was done by demonstrating erosion control benefits and what could be done through use of fertilizers. There are about 15,000 test farms in the valley watershed and work on them is guided by the county agents, who are eager for it. The TVA power program was extended to rural communities, untouched by power companies, through cooperatives and working through REA..... TVA is bringing again to the Valley a democracy of little men. Beyond the Valley, where its fertilizer program is in practice, a new kind of citizenship is being opened up to the farmer, one in which his participation in democracy does not stop with casting a ballot. This farmer is becoming a maker of American earth and, as he works, he is laying the foundation for the kind of functioning democracy that has become the American dream."

Fish Industry  
Starts in  
Ariz. Desert

A profitable commercial fish industry has sprung up in the deserts of Arizona within the last two years, according to an article in the New York Journal of Commerce of July 18. This new source of revenue unexpectedly developed when the State game department contracted with a large fish company, to clean the lakes of "buffalo fish" to make way for bass and other game fish being raised in several Arizona hatcheries. It is estimated that it will take more than five years at the present rate to exhaust the supply of fish in these lakes.

Go Slow on  
Michels Grass  
Says Editorial

In an editorial appearing in the Great Falls Tribune of July 15 Montana farmers are warned against extensive planting of Michels grass before trying out a limited plot. The grass is said to have originated in the University of Idaho from a cross of winter wheat with a large bunch perennial rye grass. While the grass has shown considerable promise under Idaho conditions, the grass has had insufficient trial in this part of Montana to determine how it could perform here.

Idle Land May  
Still be Planted

J. C. Frink, assistant extension agronomist states in the Birmingham News of July 13, that "Idle cultivated land may still be planted in Winter feed crops such as corn, cowpeas, soybeans, sorghum and sudan grass."

Soybeans Raise  
Vitality of  
Horses

Rhoda Christmas, authority on horsebreeding, writes in the Washington Times-Herald of July 18, that soybeans, when fed in conjunction with other feeds, are unsurpassed for raising the vitality of thoroughbreds.



4 States Wage  
War on White-  
Fringed Beetle

white-fringed beetle in these four States.

At the request of the Governors of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, and Mississippi, Secretary Wallace has allocated \$300,000 for continuing the cooperative Federal-State campaign to combat the

New Fumigant  
For Hawaiian  
Fruits, etc.

Certain Hawaiian fruits and vegetables, entry of which to the continental United States is restricted by Federal plant quarantine, may now come in, provided they have received a treatment under supervision and safeguards that makes it impossible for them to spread two destructive insect pests -- the Mediterranean fruitfly and the melonfly -- which made the quarantine necessary. Dr. Lee A. Strong, Chief of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, USDA, authorizes, effective August 1, 1940, a method of treatment by methyl bromide and special handling of these certain fruits and vegetables as a condition for certification for their movement from Hawaii to the mainland.

Los Angeles  
Gets Cotton  
Stamp Plan

Secretary Wallace Friday announced the selection of Los Angeles, California, and the rest of Los Angeles County, as the fourth area in which the Cotton Stamp program to move cotton goods to public assistance families through the normal channels of trade will be tried out. The Cotton Stamp Plan is already in operation in Memphis, Tennessee; Springfield, Massachusetts, and Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota.

Reduced Hog  
Supplies Seen  
For 1940-'41

Slaughter supplies of hogs substantially smaller than in the current marketing year are indicated for the 1940-41 marketing year beginning October 1, the BAE reported Friday in its monthly analysis of the livestock situation. Slaughter supplies of cattle slightly smaller than a year earlier, and slaughter supplies of sheep and lambs slightly larger, are indicated for the last half of 1940.

New List of  
Surplus Foods  
Announced

The official list of surplus foods which will be available for the period July 22 through August 11 to families taking part in the Food Order Stamp Plan, was announced Friday by the USDA. Fresh vegetables were first made available under the Plan on June 10. The seasonal designations will be continued through the summer as surpluses are indicated in various sections. Oranges have been added to the list of nationally designated blue stamp foods for the July 22 to August 11 period in all Stamp Plan areas. All other nationally designated surplus commodities, which were listed for the July 1-21 period, will be continued from July 22 through August 11. These "nationally designated" foods, which will be obtainable with blue food stamps in all Stamp Plan areas, are: oranges, butter, raisins, rice, pork, lard, all pork (except that cooked or packed in metal or glass containers), corn meal, shell eggs, dried prunes, hominy grits, dry edible beans, wheat flour, and whole wheat (Graham) flour.



Red Oat and  
Gray Variety  
Confused

Reports from Chicago that grain buyers have been purchasing the Columbia red oat as a gray variety today brought the following statement from the Bureau of Plant Industry: Confusion between Columbia and Winter Turf (the gray variety with which it is most often confused) is particularly costly to farmers when the grain is used for seed because the two varieties are not adapted to the same regions or growing conditions. Winter Turf is a later-maturing cold-resistant winter variety while Columbia is an early-maturing spring variety. Thus Columbia might not survive the winter if sown in the fall in the Winter Turf region, and Winter Turf would fail to head and make grain if sown in the late spring in the Corn Belt.

Harvest of  
Vegetables  
Moves North

Harvest of commercial and market garden vegetable crops continues to move northward, the Agricultural Marketing Service reports, and heavier supplies of fresh vegetables are coming into the large consuming markets from nearby areas. Current carlot shipments consist largely of cantaloups, lettuce, onions, potatoes, tomatoes, and watermelons, while snap beans, beets, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, peppers, and a variety of other vegetables are moving in volume by truck to nearby markets. Eastern markets are receiving increasing quantities of local produce, but carrots, melons, lettuce, onions, and tomatoes will continue to be shipped eastward from California in substantial carlot volume.

Lean Crop  
Prospects  
For SE Europe

The AP, in a dispatch from Budapest, July 20, says that the lean crop prospects of Southeastern Europe were emphasized by a Bucharest wheat forecast placing Rumania's anticipated harvest at 1,630,000 metric tons, compared to the average yearly production of around 5,000,000 tons.

Big Flax Crop  
Looms Against  
Argentine Import

"Right in the midst of the U. S. efforts to improve relations with South America comes the embarrassing fact that U. S. farmers are producing a flax crop big enough to shoulder out all Argentine imports." (Washington Merry-Go-Round, July 22.)

Va. Peach  
Crop Best  
In Years

According to the Washington Post, July 22, the Virginia peach crop gives promise this year of being one of the best in history, although a number of trees have died as a result of an ethylene bichloride treatment to eliminate borers.

Farm Export  
Market Hurt;  
Business Hit

"War has impaired the export market for farming, America's greatest industry, and the effects of this will be felt by business as a whole, according to the current issue of the Guaranty Survey, published by the Guaranty Trust Company of New York City." (New York Times, July 22.)

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Vol. LXXVIII, No. 16

Section 1

July 23, 1940.

ROOSEVELT ASKS  
\$500,000,000  
TO AID S. AM.

"The United States offered tangible evidence Monday of its desire to promote economic solidarity in the American Hemisphere when President Roosevelt asked Congress in a special message to add \$500,000,000 to the lending power of the Export-Import Bank and give that agency a 'free hand' in making loans to the Latin American republics." (New York Times, July 23.)

The New York Journal of Commerce reports that: "The \$500,000,000 increase in the loaning authority of the Export-Import Bank advocated by President Roosevelt and Secretary Hull's recommendation that facilities for the handling and marketing of accumulated surpluses of the American Republics be considered by the Havana Conference were welcomed by foreign trade interests in New York Monday as essential steps in the inter-American trade program."

LIVESTOCK MEN  
OF ARGENTINE  
OPPOSE CARTEL

From Buenos Aires, July 22, the AP wires that livestock breeders and grain planters of the province of Buenos Aires and the territory of La Pampa, representing forty-five percent of Argentina's agricultural output, threw their weight Monday night against any Western Hemisphere export cartel.

HULL OUTLINES  
PLAN OF U. S.  
AT HAVANA

From Havana the AP wires that Secretary Hull, before the second Conference of American Ministers, outlined the plan of the United States for fighting the totalitarian system of self-sufficient economy in the Western Hemisphere.

CORN GAINS  
AS WHEAT  
DROPS

According to the AP, corn emerged from a droopy commodities list Monday with new gains ranging from 1/4 to 7/8 of a cent a bushel. Wheat again dropped under the force of hedging sales, closing 1/2 to 1 cent a bushel down.

BEET SUGAR  
INDUSTRY TO  
AID DEFENSE

From Denver, July 20, the AP wires that the U.S. Beet Sugar Association gave assurance today that the domestic beet sugar industry will safeguard internal sugar supplies as part of the national defense program.



Argentine and  
U.S. See Basis  
For Friendship

"Although there has been little liking on the part of the average Argentine citizen for the U. S., a considerable change in feeling today is becoming manifest and the chances for establishing a real and lasting basis of friendship between the two nations probably are better now than at any time in history," says Joseph S. Edgerton in the Washington Star, July 21.

SMA Accepts  
Bid to Supply  
Relief Milk

According to the Washington Post, July 23, the Surplus Marketing Administration announced Monday that it had accepted a bid for supplying five-cent milk to families on relief in the city of Washington. Distribution will start August 12.

Cory Satisfied  
With Jap. Beetle  
Retardation

The AP reports from College Park, Md., that Dr. Ernest N. Cory, Maryland State entomologist, expressed satisfaction with the results of the State-wide Japanese beetle retardation program after analyzing beetle conditions in the State.

AAA Gives Rates  
For Conservation  
Payments for '40

The AAA Monday announced the rates at which conservation payments under the 1940 AAA farm program will be computed. Rates of payment and deductions under the Agricultural Conservation, Range Conservation and Naval Stores programs will be 10 percent less than the tentative rates indicated last November. These adjustments are necessary in order that the payments will not exceed the available funds.

Prefabricated  
House Plan

A new type of prefabricated house will be put on the market by a company in New York City. The house has a "bridge-frame" type of construction (of wood braced with steel) as opposed to the plywood panel type of construction which has been used by most prefabricators. The "bridge-frame" will be shipped knocked down and can be assembled quickly with locking bolts and wedges. Interiors as well as exteriors are a series of assemblies. Mass production, the company believes, is the key to lowered costs of houses. (Business Week, July 20.)

Crib-Granary  
For Corn Crop

"If the 'ever-normal granary' does nothing more than teach us that corn deteriorates when not properly stored and that flimsy buildings are expensive storage facilities, it will have accomplished something well worth while," says Henry Giese, agricultural engineer of the Iowa State College, in Agricultural Engineering for July. He describes designs for the combined crib and granary, with storage space for grain over the driveway.



Poultry and  
Fruit Urged to  
Offset Tobacco

According to Allan M. Trout, writing in the Louisville Courier Journal of July 12, Dr. Thomas P. Cooper, Acting President of the University of Kentucky, urges Kentucky farmers to substitute the production of fruit and poultry for tobacco, to help offset the loss of foreign markets for that crop.

"Dollies"  
For Freight

The Chicago & North Western Railway is speeding up the handling of less-than-carload freight between Chicago and Milwaukee by using small platform trucks called "dollies," which are loaded and rolled into freight cars and rolled out at their destination. A "dolly" measures 3 by 5 feet and has a loading capacity of one ton. Fifteen dollies can be loaded in one freight car. (Business Week, July 20.)

"BTV" Hog  
Cholera  
Vaccine

With the introduction of a new vaccine for hog cholera by Dr. William H. Boynton, professor of veterinary science at the California Experiment Station, there is reason to believe that hog growers will conquer this disease which costs hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. The new vaccine, known as BTV (Boynton's tissue vaccine) contains no disease-producing virus and does not require the costly serum dose used in the serum-virus treatment, according to the item. More than 100,000 hogs have been successfully treated. (Western Farm Life, July 15.)

Sugar Beet  
Resistant  
to White Fly

Strains of sugar beet resistant to the white fly, or leafhopper, have been developed at the Idaho Experiment Station, says an article by Lamont Johnson in Western Farm Life for July 15. Six or 8 years ago this insect pest had destroyed so many sugar-beet crops that refiners were considering the abandonment of their factories, he says. A report on the sugar-beet breeding has been made by D. M. Murphy of the Idaho station, cooperating with the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine and Bureau of Plant Industry.

"Deep-Freeze"  
for Home Food

A cold locker for the home or small store has been developed by a Detroit corporation. The new locker, which resembles a barrel, is named Deep-Freeze. The sub-zero temperatures will quick-freeze and keep a "barrel of food" at a cost of about a dollar a month for electric current. (Business Week, July 20.)

Alcohol is  
Threat to  
U. S. Diet

A Boston dispatch to the New York Herald-Tribune dated July 17 says: "A New York University doctor says today that average consumption of alcohol by the American people might render inadequate the average American diet, already dangerously low."



Conn. Warns  
Against Red  
Stele Disease

"The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station at New Haven issues a warning that the Red Stele disease of strawberries is spreading in many sections of the state, and urges growers to abandon beds so affected and to choose another site because of the fact that there is as yet no known cure, and because the fungus can remain alive in the soil for 10 or more years." (The New England Homestead of July 13.)

Rotenone Kills  
Bugs; Harmless  
To Human Life

"One of the most interesting discoveries is rotenone, a product from the roots of South American plants. Strange to say rotenone while it is poisonous to many lower forms of life, including insects and fish, is harmless to humans; therefore it is possible to prepare dust from roots containing rotenone, mix it with a carrier, and apply it to vegetables and fruits to kill bugs without any danger to the human who eats those products afterwards. (American Agriculturist, July 20.)

Low Volume in  
Flour Trade

"Flour trade at the beginning of this new crop year is probably setting a record low in volume," says the Modern Miller, July 13. "Buyers are bearish and millers in no way inclined to take chances with forward selling."

So. American  
Surplus Crops  
Proposals

The plan for a \$1,000,000,000 to \$2,000,000,000 "Pan-American trade cartel," which was Washington's original proposal to handle South American crop surpluses, has given way in the last few weeks to more practical proposals for a group of five or six surplus commodity corporations. The scheme of the President's advisers is to form a separate corporation to handle each of the five or six commodities that overflow Latin American warehouses: corn, wheat, meat, cotton, and coffee -- and possibly rice and sugar. Each corporation would include representatives of those nations which have important surpluses of that particular product. The United States would be expected to manage and finance the deals. (Business Week, July 20.)

Grass the  
"Topsy" of  
Agriculture

"Unusually penetrating is the observation in a recent release of the Press Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture that 'grass is the "Topsy" of agriculture.' Like Topsy it has 'jest growed,' while such crops as cotton, corn, and wheat have received most of the attention of both farmers and scientists. The report states that grass breeding is 25 years behind all other crops but is now getting the serious attention it deserves....." (Dairy Record, July 17.)

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Section 1

July 24, 1940.

PROPOSE MANDATE  
OVER FOREIGN  
LANDS HERE

From Havana, July 23, the AP reports that the United States proposed Tuesday that all American republics join in a mandate over European possessions in the Western Hemisphere to keep their sovereignty inviolable until Europe's war is over or eventually to give them independence.

ROME SEES  
FAILURE AT  
HAVANA

Allen Raymond wires the New York Herald Tribune from Rome, July 23, that it is generally believed in Fascist circles there that the national interests of both Brazil and Argentina, which conflict with those of the U.S., may be counted on to prevent any real success of the Havana Conference. After the conference has failed and Hitler has conquered England, it is declared in Rome, a campaign already planned will be launched for further conquest of Latin American trade.

CUBAN WOULD  
SCRAP U. S.  
SUGAR BEETS

"Scrapping of the sugar beet industry in the U.S. through action by the Government is urged as a progressive step in promoting the inter-Americas cartel plan by Luis Mendoza Y Cia of Havana in commenting on the Pan American Congress in that city. Such a move, the Cuban sugar concern declares, would make for real reciprocity and rationalization of agricultural interests." (New York Journal of Commerce, July 24.)

QUEZON WANTS  
SUGAR MEN TO  
SUB RUBBER

From Manila, the UP, July 23, reports that Philippine President Quezon is leading Philippine sugar men in an active study of the possibilities of developing rubber plantations to supplant the sugar industry, which faces ruin when the duty-free American market is cut off coincident with Philippine independence in 1946.

NO ECONOMIC WAR  
IN SOUTH AMERICA  
SAYS JONES

According to the Washington Post, July 24, Jesse Jones, Federal loan administrator, asserted Tuesday that the Administration is not planning to declare economic war on Germany in Latin America, despite the President's request Monday for a \$500,000,000 loan fund.



Faster Freight  
for Western  
Fruit Crops

To meet motor-truck competition and the demands of West Coast fruit growers for faster eastbound service, western railroads have cut their delivery time by 13 1/2 hours to Chicago and St. Louis from Pacific Coast concentration shipping points. Now a car of oranges from San Bernadino or a car of grapes from Fresno arrives in the Middle West on the sixth afternoon instead of the seventh morning. (Business Week, July 20.)

U. S. Leases  
Ground to  
Home Builders

Construction of private homes in the Government's model community at Greenbelt, Md., on ground leased to the homebuilder for 99 years, has recently been authorized by the Farm Security Administration.

"Forest  
Outings"

Western Farm Life for July 15 says that "Forest Outings" edited by Russell Lord and published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, is "one of the most beautifully illustrated and printed books to come to our attention... For persons interested in the government's efforts to develop the great outdoors, this book is worthwhile."

Wheat, Flour  
Exports Down

United States wheat and flour exports during May amounted to 2,324,000 bushels and for the 11-month period July 1939 to May 1940, to 52,439,000 bushels, says Foreign Crops and Markets (July 22). Compared with the past two seasons, exports this year continue to show a marked decline.

"Canned"  
Ice Cream

A Los Angeles company has invented a combination can of ice cream. One section contains cream and milk in liquid form, and another section sugar and flavor in powdered form for ice cream. When combined the mixture whips well. (Business Week, July 20.)

Fruit Production  
Slightly Smaller

Fruit production in 1940 probably will be slightly smaller than in 1939 but it should provide adequate supplies for all requirements. Prospects for exports to continental Europe this season are not bright; hence, a larger proportion of this season's output apparently will be sold in the domestic market. In that event, supplies of fresh fruits for the United States market will be slightly larger than in 1939. The present outlook is for smaller total supplies of canned and dried fruits this season, but here again the supplies available for the domestic market may be larger than in 1939. (The Fruit Situation, BAE.)



86% of Flue  
Cured Growers  
Want 3-Year Plan

More than 86 percent of the flue-cured tobacco growers who voted in the July 20 referendum approved adoption of marketing quotas for the three years, 1941-43, according to preliminary returns announced Tuesday by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

Tree Wound  
Paint May Spread  
Tree Disease

A fungus disease which in the past few years has killed thousands of plane trees mainly in Philadelphia and Baltimore, but also in other eastern cities--and which is known to spread through pruning tools--probably is spread also by tree-wound paints, forest pathologists of the Federal Bureau of Plant Industry report. The American plane tree is often called a sycamore.

World Trade  
in Sugar

Facts About Sugar(July) commenting editorially on "the changing sugar map of Europe," says "the United Kingdom remains almost the only country that is in a position to continue the import of sugar from over-seas. Its purchases, however, normally are much more important than the combined buying of continental European countries. Thus the changes taking place in the political map of Europe have less immediate effect upon the international trade in sugar than might be supposed."

Farm Magazine  
Affirms Control  
of Production

In an editorial, Progressive Farmer for August says, in part: "Production control is the keystone principal of the American way of doing business. Our economic system is based on production for profit with such regulation from the government as is considered necessary to protect public welfare. Price and profit depend on supply and demand. Only by controlling the supply of a commodity in accordance with fair-priced market demand is it possible to prevent incredible waste and to avoid price-depressing surpluses that will wreck any industry."

Wood Made  
Pliable by  
New Process

A new method of bending wood is described in an article in the June issue of Wood (London). The wood is treated with a solution containing 0.1 to 1 percent of a tanning agent, after which the wood can be bent, folded, or wound into any shape. By this process, the author says, wood is made more pliable than by the usual methods of heat and pressure.

Fruit in  
Cereal  
Products

Because fruits and fruit products are well adapted to use in cereal products, W. V. Cruess, of the California Experiment Station, believes much surplus fruit could be utilized by the baking and cracker industries. In an article in the Fruit Products Journal for July -- the sixth of a series on utilization of fruits in food products--he says he believes that fruit-cereals such as "fig flakes" or "prune nuts" have good possibilities.



E-I Bank to  
Aid any Am.  
Republic

"While more study is being given the proposed inter-American export cartel, it was made plain Tuesday, the Export-Import Bank proposes to put into effect, as soon as possible, a program of active financial assistance to any American republics which may need help." (Baltimore Sun, July 24.)

Treasury Offers  
CCC Notes for  
\$250,000,000

"Secretary Morgenthau announced Tuesday night that the Treasury is offering on behalf of the Commodity Credit Corporation at par and accrued interest \$250,000,000 principal amount of 3/4 per-cent, two-year-nine-month notes." (New York Herald Tribune, July 24.)

"Worst Cotton  
Crop Yet," Says  
Old Timer

An Oakland, Miss., cotton crop correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce has informed that paper that he has "known personally" sixty cotton crops, but that this is the "worst one yet."

Bid for Building  
First Farm Home  
Under USHA, Let

"The U. S. Housing Authority approved a base bid yesterday of \$1,324 for the first farm home to be constructed under the rural housing program. Price E. Jinright, of Thomasville, Ga., will build the house for the family of Elbert B. Ellis of Thomas County," according to the Washington Times-Herald of July 23.

Expert Discounts  
Fear of Price  
Inflation

Fears of price inflation as a result of the European war are strongly discounted by Mordecai Ezekiel in an extended report on price developments in "The Agricultural Situation" for July. Doctor Ezekiel points out that the price inflation of the last war was due largely to lack of adequate comprehension of the forces which make prices and price levels. Since that war, studies of new methods of fiscal and financial control and a great development of instruments and agencies of knowledge and control have resulted in an experience that is being drawn on today to insure more effective results.

Hard Red Winter  
Wheat High  
In Quality

The highest quality crop of Hard Red Winter wheat since 1937 is indicated by early July inspections, the Agricultural Marketing Service reported Tuesday. Of more than 32,000 cars inspected at representative markets during the first half of July, 53 percent graded Dark Hard and 47 percent Hard Winter. Fifty percent of the wheat graded No. 1, 27 percent No. 2, and 13 percent No. 3. Only 10 percent graded below No. 3.

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Vol. LXXVIII, No. 18

Section 1

July 25, 1940.

## ROOSEVELT AND WALLACE TO CONFER TODAY

From Hyde Park, the AP reports that President Roosevelt left Wednesday for Washington, where he will discuss campaign maneuvers with Secretary Wallace today.

## FAIR SHARE FOR FARMER HELPS MAKE U.S. SECURE

According to the New York Times, July 25, Secretary Wallace Wednesday addressed the National Committee for Agriculture in Chicago. The Secretary said, in part: "I want to speak on two subjects. One is getting a fair share of the national income for the farmer. The other is making the country secure for the future. Getting a fair share of the income for the farmer is part of making the country secure."

## EIGHT TOBACCO FIRMS INDICATED FOR MONOPOLY

The New York Journal of Commerce, July 25, says that criminal charges against the eight major tobacco companies and certain of their officers, subsidiaries and affiliates, alleging violations of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, were filed Wednesday in the U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky, at Lexington, by the Department of Justice. The department said that the companies have "by concerted action, built up marketing systems for leaf tobacco and tobacco products which have been deliberately designed to enable them to dominate and dictate terms to growers.....who supply their principal raw material, and to wholesalers and retailers, through whom tobacco products reach the public."

## CANADA TO CONTINUE 70¢ PAY FOR WHEAT

From Ottawa, July 24, the CP reports that Canadian Trade Minister Mackinnon announced Tuesday that the initial payment of seventy cents a bushel for No. 1 Northern wheat, basis Fort William, will be continued for the crop year starting August 1.

## ENGLAND HAS GREATEST FOOD SUPPLY EVER

The CTPS reports from London that England at the present time has a greater supply of all essential food than ever before in history. The statement is based on a report by Lord Woolton, British food minister.



"Teart" Disease  
in Livestock

Agriculturists at the (British) Jealott's Hill Research Station have discovered that scouring in livestock, caused by certain pasture land known locally as "teart," is due to molybdenum (a metallic element) in the forage. They report that the scouring can be prevented or cured by feeding or drenching the stock with copper sulphate. Experiments are in progress to see if the addition of copper compounds to the soil would be equally effective. (Nature, June 15.)

Babies 10 Days  
Old Can Take  
Prepared Meat

Infants can be given meat as early as ten days after birth with no digestive or kidney disturbances, which proves that meat is an excellent food for the baby when prepared so that mastication is not required, Dr. Leo K. Campbell of the University of Chicago declared in a report submitted at the recent meeting of the National Livestock and Meat Board. (Food Field Reporter, July 22.)

Blue Stamps Aid  
Independent  
Grocers

"Independent grocers are getting two-thirds of the new business created by blue stamps given relief clients under Surplus Marketing Administration's food stamp plan, it is indicated by surveys made in ten representative areas where the plan is in operation." (Food Field Reporter, July 22.)

Dairy Cow<sup>(1)</sup>  
Exhibit

The Smithsonian Institution in Washington has installed in its museum a permanent exhibit of the dairy cow. The display, entitled "Why the Scientist Studies Skim Milk and Whey," was prepared by Sealtest, Inc., and Sheffield By-Products Company in cooperation with the Bureau of Dairy Industry. The exhibit traces the utilization of the nation's yearly fifty-odd billion quarts of milk, indicates the problem of disposing of some 30 billion quarts of surplus skim-milk and whey, and shows industrial outlets developed for dairy by-products. (Dairy World, July.)

Texas Yam Eyed  
As New Source  
of Explosive

According to the Food Field Reporter, July 22, Gilbert C. Wilson, instructor at North Texas State Teachers' College, Denton, indicated recently that there is a possibility that the Texas yam might prove an excellent source of cellulose for the manufacture of explosives.

Turkey Steaks  
from Missouri

Leading hotels in cities in Missouri are featuring "turkey steaks." The meat of the turkey is removed from the bones with a special boning knife. It is cut into steaks of light or dark meat, or both, in any size from a half-pound up. The steaks are fried slowly in melted fat in a heavy covered skillet and then steamed. (National Poultry Digest, July 15.)



Vitamin B<sub>1</sub>  
for Plants

Vitamin B<sub>1</sub> (thiamin chloride) which has attracted attention recently as a growth-promoting substance for plants, gives best results when applied to plants such as the camellia that do not produce enough of this vitamin for their needs. The fruit and seed of some plants, particularly beans, corn, peas, and wheat, are rich in vitamin B<sub>1</sub>. (E. W. McElwee, in Southern Florist and Nurseryman, July 19.)

Cooperative  
Cold Lockers

About 15 percent of the frozen-food locker plants in the United States are owned and operated by cooperatives, according to reports from a nation-wide survey by the Farm Credit Administration. Minnesota leads with approximately one-third of its 213 locker plants cooperatively owned and operated. Other states having a large percentage of cooperative plants are Illinois, Washington, and Wisconsin. (Fruit Products Journal, July.)

Egg Exchange

Retail merchants at Waverly, Ohio, recently held an egg "exchange day" and offered farmers 2 cents a dozen more than market prices for eggs in exchange for commodities in the stores. (National Poultry Digest, July 15.)

Cobblestone  
Yards for  
Turkeys

Cobblestone yards are recommended by Michigan State College as sanitary and inexpensive places to raise turkeys in close confinement. Turkeys raised the past four years on stone yards at the Lake City station of the college have been free of disease and have produced high quality meat. The poults are put in the yards at 8 or 10 weeks of age. Rain and sunshine keep the stones clean and sanitary. (National Poultry Digest, July 15.)

A.M.A. Council  
May Include  
Frozen Foods

The Council on Foods of the American Medical Association has voted to consider the inclusion of quick-frozen fruits and vegetables in the list of accepted foods, on the basis of a report by M. S. Rose in the Association Journal (114:1356-1361, 1940). The report summarizes temperatures, processes, selection of foods, and preservation of nutritive values, and gives about 50 references to literature in this field. (New England Journal of Medicine, July 18.)

Machine  
Dry-Picks  
Poultry

Poultry may now be dry-picked on a machine invented in Great Britain and introduced in the United States. An American company has been organized to sell these mechanical feather pickers under British patent rights. Skilled operators attain considerable speed with this equipment. One operator in a Brooklyn dry-picking establishment averaged 50 chickens an hour. (American Egg and Poultry Review, July.)



Heat Hits Corn,  
Aids Cotton and  
Wheat Harvest

Wednesday's Crop Report from the Weather Bureau reported a general deterioration of growing crops, due to widespread hot and dry weather over a large part of the country last week. Corn has begun to suffer in many sections, the report says, but the warm weather has aided cotton cultivation and the harvesting of wheat.

U. S. Exports  
Rose 8%  
In June

"Boosted by a huge increase in the value of war material shipped to the United Kingdom and a large rise in the value of airplanes sent to France before her surrender, American exports in June withstood the shock of Italy's entrance in the war and rose eight percent over May, a preliminary Commerce Department study revealed Wednesday." (Washington Post, July 25.)

Trade Sees All-  
Time High Use  
of Cotton Here

The New York Journal of Commerce, July 25, says that many in the cotton trade expect domestic consumption in the season beginning August 1 to set an all-time high and to offset, to some extent, the likely drop in exports to near-record lows.

Big Changes  
Seen Here If  
Huns Win War

"Far-reaching political and economic changes, including adoption of national planning, government control of all foreign trade and economic defense of Latin America, will be forced upon the U. S. if Germany wins the war in Europe, the Foreign Policy Association concluded Wednesday in an analysis of possible consequences of a Nazi victory." (New York Herald Tribune, July 24.)

Beetles Hitch-  
Hike on Planes

The New York Herald Tribune, July 25, reports that Japanese beetles, which have a flying range of five miles, have been getting free rides on air liners by clinging to passengers' clothing and baggage. Two inspectors from the USDA have been working at LaGuardia Field, Long Island, for ten days in an attempt to curb the long-range migrations of the pests.

Apoplexy Deaths  
Fewer in Lambs  
Fed Molasses

Capper's Farmer for August reports that tests at the Wooster Experiment Station in Ohio during three years have shown that by feeding three-tenths of a pound of cane molasses a head daily, incidence of death of lambs from apoplexy is reduced. One lot of lambs to which molasses had been fed from the start shows no loss, while the group that received no molasses shows a 16 percent loss.

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Vol. LXXVIII, No. 19

Section 1

July 26, 1940.

## ECONOMIC UNITY CHANCES BRIGHTER AT HAVANA

According to Joseph Barnes, in the New York Herald Tribune, the chances of economic cooperation on a limited scale among the American republics grew brighter in Havana Thursday, while the prospect of a unanimous solution of the problem of European colonies became more dim as the Inter-American Conference closed the door to new proposals. The measures include temporary cooperative facilities for marketing surplus products, limited agreements to be worked out covering certain commodities and the use of some surplus goods to improve public health standards and to aid in the relief of refugees.

## HEAT HOLDS GRAINS DOWN

The AP reports that grain prices in Chicago were on the downgrade Thursday, since the markets were dominated largely by weather conditions, and the forecast for a break in the week-old heat wave in the Spring wheat areas and the corn belt caused a decided change of sentiment. Corn prices declined about 1 cent a bushel, and the losses in wheat were 1/2 to 5/8 cents lower. In the meanwhile, prices on the Cotton Exchange advanced again and ended with gains of 1 to 5 points.

## NAZIS WANT AMERICAS TRADE ON OWN TERMS

From Berlin the New York Times, July 26, reports that Walter Funk, Reich Economic Minister, stated Thursday, in an address before foreign correspondents, that the attitude of the United States toward Germany will govern Germany's purchase of American goods after the European war. The prerequisites for the resumption of German-American trade are, according to Herr Funk, "the change of the United States' present commercial policy and abstention of all interference with Germany's trade with Latin America."

## EGYPT WOULD SELL COTTON TO RUSSIA

From Cairo, July 25, the AP reports that Egypt, trying to find a way to avoid huge financial losses to cotton growers because of stoppage of shipping in the Mediterranean, is looking to Soviet Russia as a possible buyer.



Canada's Wheat  
Industry Hangs  
On War

From Regina, July 23, the UP reports that the whole future of Canada's wheat industry hangs in the balance because of Germany's drive in Europe, according to J. G. Taggart Minister of Agriculture for Saskatchewan. Complete Nazi domination of Europe, followed by application of the German theory of self-sufficiency, might force abandonment of more than 10,000,000 acres of low-grade wheat land through the West to sheep ranching, the minister said.

"Coolers" for  
Poultry Houses

Coolers in poultry houses raised egg production during July, August, and September in experiments conducted by the University of California with evaporator type coolers which changed the air once a minute. Hen mortality was lower in the cooled houses, where coolers kept the temperature at less than 90 degrees F. even on days when the outside temperature was up to 110. (National Poultry Digest, July 15.)

Best Timber  
Preservatives

Henry Schacht, special writer on Pacific Coast farm topics, reports, in Country Gentleman for August, that fifteen years of constant testing at the University of California have shown creosote, creosol and zinc chloride to be the most satisfactory preservatives for fence posts and other farm timbers that are exposed to weathering.

Poultry, Egg  
Information

A mimeographed list recently compiled by the U. S. Department of Agriculture lists by subjects all publications, reports, circulars, and posters relating to poultry and eggs put out by that department. Fourteen branches of the Department are working on some phase of the poultry industry. There are about 136 different publications on poultry and eggs. The list may be obtained free from W. D. Termohlen, Poultry Committee, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington. (American Egg and Poultry Review, July.)

Vitamin B in  
Meat Not Hurt  
By Freezing

Successful Farming for August says that early results of experiments now being performed at the South Dakota Experiment Station indicate that the vitamin B content of meat is not materially harmed by freezing in refrigerated lockers. Tests were conducted on fresh lamb frozen at a temperature of -4 degrees and held at 10 degrees to 12 degrees F.

Seneca, A  
New Bean

The New York Experiment Station reports a new bean variety called Seneca. Seed will not be available until 1941. The new variety will be used chiefly for grain, and it produces about 30 percent more than the present popular variety, Cayuga. Seneca has been producing more than 35 bushels to the acre on the station farm. (Farmer's Digest, August.)



No Danger  
Of Rubber  
Shortage

The CTPS, July 25, reports that the United States, in case of war, would be in no danger of a rubber famine, even if Japan should shut off our natural supply of rubber from the Dutch East Indies, since the production of synthetic rubber has progressed to the point where the industry's leaders are prepared to put it into mass production before any serious shortage could occur.

Extension of  
Sugar Law up  
Next Wednesday

The New York Journal of Commerce, July 26, says that Chairman Pat Harrison of the Senate Finance Committee announced Thursday that his committee would meet next Wednesday to decide upon the disposition of the Cummings bill extending the sugar law for another year.

Food Shortages  
Make Themselves  
Felt in Europe

The AP reports that shortages which may turn to famine were beginning to make themselves felt in Europe Thursday. Italy's minister of agriculture admitted that the Italian wheat crop this year will be 28,292,000 bushels less than last. Unoccupied France is now reduced to calling through newspapers for Germany to give her food. Britain also showed signs of feeling the pinch of wartime conditions, though constant German bombing has not forced her to give up the use of her eastern and southern ports.

Cash Farm Income  
587,000,000  
In June

Cash farm income from marketings and Government payments in June amounted to 587 million dollars, compared with 583 million dollars in June 1939 and the revised estimate of 620 million dollars in May 1940. The decline in income from farm marketings from May to June was due partly to the lateness of the season this year, which greatly reduced marketings of early wheat, apples, and peaches, and partly to the decline from May to June in prices of livestock and livestock products. Income from all groups of livestock and livestock products declined after seasonal adjustment, the greatest decline occurring in income from meat animals. Cash income from farm marketings was somewhat higher in June than a year earlier, totaling 562 million dollars, compared with 531 million dollars in June last year and 592 million dollars in May 1940. Government payments in June totaled 25 million dollars, less than half the 52 million dollars in June last year. (Farm Income Situation, BAE.)

Department  
Publications  
Praised

In recent years the Yearbook of Agriculture, published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, has been issued in an improved form; the statistical section now appears separately, and each issue of the Yearbook deals with a theme of interest to farmers and the public. Foreign Agriculture, issued monthly by the Department, contains useful summaries of agricultural progress throughout the world. (Geographical Journal, London, July.)



Neon Lights  
Lure Insects

Red-and-green neon lights have been installed under water in Federal trout hatcheries at the Spearfish, S.D., Station, to attract insects as food for fish. These submarine lights are expected to prove better lures for insects than the above-water, drop-cord lights which are commonly used. (Louisiana Conservation Review, Spring.)

Conservation  
Of Soil Is  
Saving Land

An editorial in Prairie Farmer for July 13, says in part: "Driving around the country at this time of year, we see the results of several years of the soil conservation program. Pastures and hay land are so large in acreage compared with a few years ago that we believe that many farmers have 'lived and learned.' Let us not forget again the terrible loss of soil which came when these acres were cultivated or left bare. In the soil conservation plan lies the prosperity of future generations of American farmers."

Tomato  
Breeding

Plant breeders are trying to develop more tomato varieties resistant to disease. Breeding experiments, using a disease-resistant form with unpalatable fruit and a disease-susceptible form with palatable fruit, have yielded a resistant hybrid with palatable fruit. So far only two species of tomatoes have been used for this purpose. The four remaining species are now being used for the first time as the result of an expedition to South America by plant explorers of the Bureau of Plant Industry. (Cornelius H. Muller, BPI., in National Horticultural Magazine, July.)

Increase in  
Flaxseed May  
Upset Business

"While it is gratifying to note that domestic production of flaxseed this year is expected to exceed last year's crop by forty percent, it should be kept in mind that too great an increase in U. S. production may eventually seriously disturb commercial business in the Western Hemisphere." (Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter, July 15.)

World Cereal  
Collection  
Proposed

The establishment of an international collection of cereal varieties, for the study of physiological races of rusts, has been suggested by Riehm in the (British) Review of Applied Mycology. Plant breeders need to know the reaction of cereal varieties to rusts, not only in their own countries, but also in neighboring ones, where different physiologic races of rusts may exist. (Current Science, India, May.)

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Vol. LXXVIII, No. 20

Section 1

July 29, 1940.

## WALLACE TO RESIGN OR TAKE LEAVE

Secretary Wallace Friday issued the following statement. As the President has indicated, I plan to resign, or take a leave of absence without pay, from my post as Secretary of Agriculture as soon as I begin active political campaigning. This will be shortly after my notification ceremonies and acceptance in late August.

## "HAVANA ACT" UNANIMIOUSLY ADOPTED

From Havana the AP July 28, reports that the "Act of Havana" was unanimously reported by the peace commission Sunday for formal adoption by the American Foreign Ministers to create an intercontinental "Monroe Doctrine" with machinery for its rapid application as a barrier against any foreign invader or land-grabbing conquerer.

## ARNOLD PROBING CHEESE INDUSTRY ON PRICE FIXING

The AP reports that Thurman Arnold, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the anti-trust division, said Saturday night that the Justice Department was investigating the cheese industry. Mr. Arnold, in a radio address, said the "basic settlement price for the whole week for millions and millions of pounds of cheese" was set each Friday afternoon at Plymouth, Wisconsin. "If this hokus-pokus was limited to cheese," Mr. Arnold said, "the farmer and the consumer might survive. As a matter of fact, the same situation applies in a greater or less degree to a multitude of farm products."

## PROGRAM URGED FOR MIGRANT WORKERS

According to the UP, July 26, a seven-point Federal program to protect 4,000,000 migratory workers was recommended to President Roosevelt Friday by the Interdepartmental Committee to Co-ordinate Health and Welfare Activities. The Committee said that low wages and long gaps between jobs "keep most of them within the lowest income groups in the nation. At best they are hardly above the thin edge of distress, without margin for health, education or family needs."



Corn and  
Wheat Close  
Lower

According to the New York Journal of Commerce, corn at Chicago on Saturday closed  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  cents lower and wheat was unchanged to  $\frac{1}{8}$  cents lower. Trading was fairly active.

Federal Seed  
Act Effective  
August 9

Federal Seed Act requirements for labeling vegetable seeds shipped in interstate commerce become effective August 9, the Agricultural Marketing Service announced today. After August 9, all vegetable seed that comes within the regulations of the Act must be properly labeled, honestly advertised, and honestly represented in every way.

U. S. Largest  
Wool Buyer  
In Argentine

This year, for the eight months ending with May, the United States changed places with the United Kingdom as the most important buyer of Argentine wool, according to Foreign Crops and Markets issued today. The United States took 101 million pounds during this period, almost twice as much as in the previous year, and more than six times as much as the United Kingdom. The United States has so far taken much more than a third of the entire Argentine clip and over a fourth of that from Uruguay.

Food  
Shortage

The New York Herald-Tribune reports that severe shortages of food, fodder, textiles and clothing are beginning to be felt in most of the German-controlled areas of Europe, according to reliable reports in London.

European Food  
Supplies Lower;  
Feeds Short

Total continental European supplies of the bread grains - wheat and rye - this year appear to be 5 to 10 percent under peacetime consumption requirements, according to Foreign Crops and Markets. The report also says that feed supplies probably will be deficient by 10 to 15 percent. Feed grain production will be about normal, but the shortage of feed concentrates in Denmark, the Netherlands and parts of Germany, countries which depend heavily on imports, will be particularly acute.

Cotton Growing  
In Italy Is  
Successful

From Rome, July 26, an UP dispatch says that the newspaper Messaggero said Friday that experimental growing of cotton in Italy had been successful and that large areas would be planted for production on a commercial scale.

The AP reports from Mt. Airy, Maryland, that some milk producers in that area--a part of the Baltimore shed--are considering asking for a Federal marketing setup such as prevails among shippers marketing in Washington.



Unfixed Call  
Cotton Sales  
597,950 Bales

The Commodity Exchange Administration reports a total of 597,950 bales of unfixed call sales of cotton based on New York cotton futures for July 19, 1940, this being an increase of 79,500 bales over the total of 518,450 bales reported for July 12. The distribution by futures was as follows: 95,950 bales based October, 246,800 bales based December, 5,800 bales based January, 118,200 bales based March, 104,400 bales based May, and 26,800 bales based July -- total 597,950 bales.

Two Research  
Divisions  
Merged

In line with recent efforts in the USDA to combine administrative units wherever feasible, Dr. Henry G. Knight, Chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, has announced the consolidation of the Carbohydrate Research Division and the Food Research Division, with the exception of the enzyme research investigations which is set up as an independent laboratory.

New "Necro"  
Hits Swine

A new form of necro (necro-bacillosis) is now prevalent in corn belt herds. The new type of necro, called bloody scours, is becoming one of the most serious problems of hog producers. The disease usually appears among pigs under 75 pounds in weight. (Wallaces' Farmer, June 15.)

Import Wraps  
On Suckling  
Clover Eased

The Agricultural Marketing Service announced Friday that mixtures of white and suckling clover seeds may be imported after August 15, 1940, under an order issued July 25 by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Capon  
Feeding  
Test

The North Dakota Experiment Station determined in a 3-year feeding test with 2 different breeds of poultry that from the standpoint of gain and feed cost, capons reach the most economical weights when 30 to 32 weeks old. Rhode Island Reds at the station did not prove as satisfactory for capons as Jersey White Giants. (Farmer's Digest, August.)

More Protection  
To Tenant In  
AAA Payments

"More protection to the tenant farmer in AAA payments is provided in a new amendment to the farm act. The act already prevents a landlord from getting an increase in AAA payments if he cuts down the number of his tenants below the average for the preceding three years. The new amendment will require the landlord who asks a bigger check because of a change in the number of his tenants to prove that he didn't violate the law. This will make the law easier for the county committees to enforce, provided tenants come out on election days in sufficient numbers to secure adequate representation for themselves on the committees." (Wallaces' Farmer, July 13.)



REA Allots\$4,344,000For Rural Power

Allotments totaling \$4,344,000 for rural electrification systems in 19 States, were announced today by Harry Slattery, Administrator of REA. These allotments provide for the establishment of 3 new systems, and the enlargement of 16 others. This brings allotments made by REA since it was established in 1935 to \$292,387,114.

CanadianWheat

The problem of storing Canada's large stock of wheat and coarse grains this year has given rise to many schemes, which are proposed in a report in the Northwestern Miller (July 24). The need for continued price protection through the Canadian Wheat Board is urged in the report.

CranberryBy-Products

A cranberry company has found a sideline to the canned cranberry business. Seeds and skins, formerly thrown away, have been found to yield ursolic acid (worth \$80 an ounce before the new source was discovered) and cranberry-seed oil. The first cranberry by-products plant is expected to be in operation soon. (Consumers' Digest, August.)

Farms inCorn Belt

How many folks who wanted to farm in the corn belt in 1940 haven't been able to find farms? The Farm Security Administration has made a survey in five States: Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, and Ohio. In these States, they find 22,702 farmers who tried to get farms and weren't able to. (Wallaces' Farmer, June 15.)

AppleMarkets

Control of the cull apple market will enable American apple producers to make money without exporting any of their crop, delegates from 22 apple States decided at the annual meeting of the National Apple Institute. C. E. Chase, secretary of the Washington State Apple Commission, said that with only a small increase in consumer demand apple growers could get along without an export market. (Farm Journal, June.)

Plow RigInvented

A plow rig that gives superior trash coverage and less draft has been invented by E. V. Collins of Iowa State College. The rig consists of a regular 16-inch tractor plow with one-half of a 14-inch lister share attached to the land side of a regular plow bottom. (Wallaces' Farmer, June 15.)

TractorPlowingCosts

The average hourly cost of tractor plowing, not including the wages of the men on the machine, is approximately 55 cents for a two-bottom outfit and 70 cents for a three-bottom rig, according to studies at the Illinois Experiment Station. These estimates are based on tractor operation of about 500 hours a year. (Wallaces' Farmer, June 15.)

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